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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome of the Week, &c.	371
Leading Articles:—	
The Government's Neglect of British Interests	372
The Southern Rebellion	372
The Chihli Troubles	372
Sir Thomas Jackson's Departure	373
The Colony's Water Supply	374
French Activity in the South	374
British Naval Strength in the Far East	375
Mining Regulations: The Peking Draft	375
Telegrams	375
Hongkong Sanitary Board	376
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce	376
The China Contingent for the Coronation	377
The Departure of Sir Thomas Jackson	379
The Health of Hongkong	382
The Rainfall	382
The Diamond Jubilee Fund	382
Prices in the Central Market	383
The *Kaifong* Stowaway Case	383
Opening of a Sikh Temple in Hongkong	384
The General Post Office in 1901	384
Presentation to Mr. J. W. Graham	385
Amateur Theatricals at Canton	385
Captain Scott and his "Dotter"	385
Manchuria and Mongolia	385
French Designs in South China	386
Canton	386
Pakhoi	386
Swatow	387
Foochow	387
Northern Notes	387
Correspondence	387
Star Ferry Co.	388
China Light and Power Co.	388
Reviews	388
Shanghai Races	389
German Merchants and the Tariff Negotiations	390
Weihaiwei: A Curious Story	390
Hongkong and Port News	390
Commercial	391
Shipping	393

BIRTHS.

On the 30th April, at Tientsin, the wife of W. W. DICKINSON, of a son.

On the 10th May, at Mountain View, the Peak, the wife of W. MALCOLM WATSON, of a daughter.

On the 10th May, at No. 4, Peak Road, "Stillingflete," the wife of SILAS H. JOSEPH, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 19th April, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Tientsin, GEORGE PATRICK JOSEPH CROFTS, of Tientsin, to MARGARET HARDY WILSON, also of Tientsin.

On the 30th April, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Nagasaki, PERCY WILFRID, second son of THOMAS PATE, of Southport, England, to BERTHA, youngest daughter of THOMAS MCGHIE, of Broadgreen, Liverpool.

On the 1st May, before the British Consul-General, and afterwards at the London Mission College Chapel, Tientsin, by the Rev. W. Hopkyn Rees, the Rev. ERNEST BOX, L.M.S., Shanghai, to Miss ETHEL ELISABETH SHILSTON, L.M.S., Tientsin, daughter of THOMAS SHILSTON, Ilford Essex.

DEATHS.

On the 21st April, at Tientsin, WILLIAM HENDERSON FORBES, Secretary, Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Limited, eldest son of ALEXANDER FORBES, Edinburgh, aged 45 years.

On the 29th April, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, of smallpox, Captain ARTHUR M. RAYMOND, late of Hongkong, aged 45 years.

On the 7th May, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, JOHN WATSON, aged 29 years. Native of Gateshead-on-Tyne.

On the 15th May, at the Peak Hospital, WILLIAM JACKSON DAVIS, late Master of steamer *Haiching*, aged 41 years. The funeral will pass the Monument to-day, at 5.30 p.m.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 15th April, per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, arrived on the 14th May (29 days); the German mail of the 15th April, per N. D. L. steamer *Preussen*, arrived on the 14th May (29 days); and the French mail of the 18th April arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 17th May (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

At Taiyuanfu, the Governor is organising a German-drilled army, which will be spread through the province.

A Seoul despatch reports that M. Poulancy, French Minister in Corea, has demanded the right to lay the Seoul-Wiju Railway and of working a certain mine. These demands are thought to be in compensation for the abandonment of the loan agreement.

As a result of the murder of Mr. Rutherford on the 9th ult., great severity has been exhibited at the Singapore Assizes toward all cases of robbery. Seven men between them received one hundred and seven years' imprisonment—an average of over fifteen years each.

The Compagnie Estasiatique Francaise has been formed in Paris to establish a new steamship line to the Far East. The capital is ten million francs, half of which has already been subscribed. Denmark, Sweden, the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, and the Danish East Asiatic Steamship Company, each nominate two directors.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, in answer to a question by Lord Charles Beresford in the House of Commons on the 13th inst., stated that there was no official information to the effect that the collection of taxes to enable China to pay the indemnity was likely to lead to disturbances. The Government, he said, was considering the desirablity of consulting the foreign governments regarding the appointment of a mixed commission of bankers and commercial men to propose some means of enabling China to pay without unduly straining her resources.

At a largely attended special meeting of the ratepayers, held in the Town Hall, Shanghai, on Friday afternoon, after an eloquent speech by the Chairman of the Council, a resolution was proposed by Mr. W. V. Drummond, seconded by Mr. E. Jenner Hogg, and carried unanimously, that the meeting is satisfied and approves the action of the Council in the matter under discussion, and further desires to express the earnest hope that the Council will use its strongest efforts to prevent the arrest or forcible removal of native residents of the International Settlement beyond Settlement limits without a preliminary enquiry at the Mixed Court of the International Settlement in all cases without exception.

Telegraphic information has been received at Macao to the effect that H. E. Senhor Conselheiro Horta e Costa, the Governor of that Colony, will leave Lisbon for Macao to resume the reins of government at the end of June. H. E. is expected to arrive here early in August.

According to a Paotingfu despatch, work on the proposed railway between that city and Taiyuen, the capital of Shansi, which is in the hands of a British Company, was to be commenced on or about the 1st inst. The despatch further states that the proposed railway between Peking and Kalgan (Changchiawan), which is also in the hands of a British syndicate, will be begun some time in August next.

Mr. J. J. O'Kelly (M. P. for Roscommon) had a question on the paper last week in the House of Commons on the subject of Japanese immigration to Australia. He asked whether the Government would urge upon the forthcoming conference of Colonial Premiers in London the necessity of recognising the equal international rights of the Japanese, within the British Empire, with the subjects of other friendly nations, and whether it would request the Colonies to extend to the Japanese the same rights and privileges as other foreigners enjoy? Mr. Chamberlain replied that he had not proposed that the conference should discuss the question. Then, asked Mr. O'Kelly, are not the Japanese to be treated as the subjects of a civilised Power? Mr. Chamberlain stated that there was not the slightest foundation for the hon. member's suggestion.

Our London correspondent telegraphed on the 12th May:—"A circular has been issued to the shareholders of the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company, stating that the directors have received an offer to purchase all issued shares of the Company at £529,991, the purchaser acquiring control of the business without taking over the Company's premises, staff, employees, or agents." On enquiry here we find that beyond the fact that negotiations are known to have been proceeding for the purchase of the business of the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company, the agents in this Colony, Messrs. Dodwell & Co., are not aware of the progress of the negotiations nor of their result. At the annual meeting of shareholders in London on 18th March last, the balance sheet showed that the shares issued amounted to £508,255. The Company's fleet comprises 13 steamers, with an aggregate capacity of 106,870 tons. The details are as follows:—*Hyson*, 9,170 tons, built in November, 1899; *Yang-tsze* 9,170 tons, March, 1899; *Ping Suey*, 9,170 tons, June, 1899; *Moyune*, 6,800 tons, August, 1895; *Teenkai*, 6,800 tons, October, 1895; *Kintuck*, 6,600 tons, October, 1895; *Pak Ling*, 6,600 tons, September, 1895, *Kaisow*, 6,060 tons, March, 1895; *Oopack*, 6,000 tons, October, 1894; *Ching Wo*, 6,000 tons, September, 1894; *Poyang*, 11,500 tons, building; *Ningchow*, 11,500 tons, building; *Oanfa*, 11,500 tons, building. A later telegram from our correspondent says:—"It is reported that Mr. Alfred Holt is intending to purchase the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company's business. A circular just issued states that the majority of the directors of the latter regard the terms offered as decidedly beneficial."

THE GOVERNMENT'S NEGLECT OF BRITISH INTERESTS.

(*Daily Press*, 10th May.)

In our issue of the 7th inst. we reproduced from the *London and China Express* a paragraph on the formation of the Hunan Steamer Company, a concern with a capital of Tls. 1,500,000, formed by Japanese financiers for the purpose of opening up trade on the inland waters of central China. Our London contemporary naturally thinks that, with a Japanese Government guarantee of six per cent. on its capital, this enterprise is being launched under highly favourable auspices, but cannot conceal its disappointment that, in a region supposed to be specially in the sphere of British influence, the opportunity afforded should have been neglected by British capitalists. It says:—"Hunan, which was pioneered "and reported upon over five years ago by "Captain MORTIMER O'SULLIVAN on behalf "of the Shanghai General Chamber of Com-"merce, was shown to be one of the wealth-"iest units of the Chinese Empire, and a "latent Eldorado simply awaiting commer-"cial exploitation. Yet so far as we know, "the British commercial community have "failed to profit by the efforts of one of their "expert pioneers. Perhaps we shall next hear "of the opening up to shallow-draft steamer "traffic on the Han River under a foreign "flag—and still we pride ourselves on being "the premier maritime nation in the world." And no doubt we should still continue to rejoice in that proud position were it not for the effeteness of our rulers and their absolute inability to see that a resolute policy in China and a determination to protect their maritime interests by subsidies is gradually being adopted by Foreign Powers, to the detriment of those who still cling to the old *laissez faire* policy and free trade. British manufacturers, merchants, and shipowners have of late years been freely accused of want of enterprise, and, so far as the first-named are concerned, we are bound to admit with some degree of justice, for they have shown an amazing unreadiness to cater for particular wants and markets, and have compelled the British merchant either to lose business or go to continental makers for the required goods. But so far as the merchant and ship owner are concerned this charge of indifference does not hold. If there is any reasonable chance of doing business the British merchant is always ready enough to seize the opportunity, and the shipowner is glad to try new routes if there is a reasonable chance of even ultimate success. But naturally he has to be more careful than his foreign competitors, who are subsidised by their Governments to such an extent as will ensure a fair interest on the capital employed. Such, however, is his courage and enterprise, that he is content to take all risks in opening new lines provided he can be assured that he will receive adequate protection from his Minister in the event of any attempt to obstruct him and ruin the trade he has laboured to develope. That the British Representatives at Peking and the British Foreign Office have time and again shown their inability or indisposition to secure either the just rights of British subject or their claims for injuries suffered is notorious. As an instance of the former the fate of the recent attempt made to maintain a regular line of steamers between Hongkong and the West River is only too sufficing. After running for some two years the boats were withdawn because they could not be made to pay, the Imperial Maritime Customs refusing to allow them to call for passengers at the various way-stations. The steamers were sold, and the money has been long since been received and applied to other purposes. A single notable illustration of the other point need only be named. We refer to the unsettled claim for the loss of the Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer *Kowshing*, which was sunk by the Japanese warships during the Chino-Japanese War while acting as a troopship on charter to the deceased LI HUNG-CHANG. The claim made was for the loss of the ship and of the properties and effects of the British commander, officers, and crew. This happened many years ago, and the claim is still under consideration and probably will continue in that indefinite position for another decade unless some statesman with some small modicum of energy comes to the Foreign Office. It is not too much to say that, had this claim been made by either the French, German, or Russian Governments, it would long since have been settled to the entire satisfaction of the claimants. A magnificent opportunity offered for the settlement of this and other outstanding questions when the negotiations for a settlement of the claims arising out of the attack on the British Legation and the wholesale massacre of British missionaries were being conducted. But it was foolishly allowed to pass, and all the old interminable tactics of delay and obstruction are being again calmly submitted to by the Foreign Office, which is callous alike to the interests of long-suffering British shipowners and to the loss of prestige involved in such a virtual victory for Chinese bad faith.

THE SOUTHERN REBELLION.

(*Daily Press*, 13th May.)

At length we have received from Canton some confirmation of the rumours which have been current in other quarters with regard to the so-called "Southern rebellion." Hitherto, widespread as were the stories of the rebels overrunning the Two Kwang and even the neighbouring provinces, no reliable news was to hand from Canton, though in Shanghai and further north circumstantial accounts were published from time to time of what was said to be going on. As has been pointed out before, Canton is so accustomed to the chronic unrest of Kwangsi that the authorities there would be naturally inclined to disregard rumours of outbreaks. Troubles are expected, annually it may be said, in the province, and their occurrence does not cause dismay in the viceregal city. Nevertheless to such a size have the rumours now attained that it is impossible for Canton to treat them so lightly as hitherto. When it is given out to the world that four provinces are threatened, that Nanning is completely cut off by the rebels, and that the Imperial troops are deserting in large numbers, the credit of the Viceroy, H.E. TAO MU, demands that the reports should be disproved, if disproof is possible. We are disinclined, as we have said some time ago, to believe much of what has been written about the Kwangsi rebellion, because there are various people interested, for political or other reasons, in making out the situation to be very grave. But, on the principle that there is no smoke without fire, it appears that there must be something more than the usual provincial troubles behind the tales of the Kwangsi rebellion. The already familiar version of the story is repeated by a letter published in the Shanghai *Su Pao*, dated the 23rd April, which declares that Nanning district is now wholly overrun by the rebels, and the villagers generally have joined them in large numbers. In all the places near Nanning, thousands, or perhaps tens of thousands, have arms of the new pattern, and use smokeless powder. Boats have been secretly conveying munitions of war into the country for the use of the rebels, and so on. The difficulty of sifting the evidence lies in the impossibility of judging the independence or otherwise of the sources of the many reports. Our Canton correspondent confirms the fact of the rebels being equipped with arms of the new pattern—quick-firing Mausers, he states them to be—and testifies to their strength in the Nanning neighbourhood. He estimates their numbers at six or seven thousand. All sorts of figures are given by other correspondents, and there is at present not the slightest chance of arriving at the truth of the matter. We must perhaps be prepared to admit that there is more in the rumours than at first appeared likely, though it is fairly clear that they were much exaggerated some months ago, even purposely in certain quarters. It is impossible that there should have been so little dislocation of trade along the coast had the provinces being in such a state of uproar as was stated by the sensational correspondents. And when we hear talk of "another Taiping rebellion" we cannot but doubt the *bona-fides* of the writers. The Chinese paper which we mentioned above ascribes the Kwangsi rebellion to natural discontent at unduly heavy taxation. There has always been an attempt to bleed the Two Kwang for the benefit of North China, and this is as much exemplified in the indemnity taxation as it used to be in the past.

THE CHIHLI TROUBLES.

(*Daily Press*, 15th May.)

In spite of the news which reached us on Tuesday of a great victory for the Imperialist troops, affairs in Chihli are not progressing satisfactorily, and the worst of the position is that it is not entirely the Chinese who are to blame. In fact, it requires all the skill in administration of which YUAN SHIKHAI is possessed to keep affairs from breaking out into open discontent. We are sorry in this instance that we cannot hold the Roman missionaries altogether free from blame. That under the rule of the Dowager TSZ'HI abominable crimes were committed on the Roman converts is quite true, and that now that matters have been so far amended that all overt action against Christians as such is practically impossible, is no excuse, but rather the contrary for the sanction recently extended by their spiritual guides to the dangerous and aggressive conduct attributed on all sides to the converts. These excesses are mainly confined to the southern parts of the province, especially the prefectures of Shunteh and Kwangping, and it is here of course that the persecution of the Christian converts during the Boxer troubles was most marked. It is doubtful how far the foreign Powers were justified in inflicting on the Chinese Government penalties for losses incurred by its own subjects at the hands of their fellow nationals, but the large indemnity claimed by the French, amounting to ten and a half millions sterling, is unfortunately made up in great measure of such claims, the policy of which is more than doubtful. A good portion of this indemnity has to be borne by these districts: and in addition there remain large local claims, in the prosecution of which the Romanist converts, headed by their priests, have been most unduly

exacting, and the French Government has, unwisely advised, thrown in its influence on to the scale. Though the present Viceroy has from the pressure of circumstances had to acknowledge these claims, and has been doing his best to have them arranged, the methods adopted have not been of the wisest; and the officials, spurred by the indecent haste of the Christians, have been at their wits' ends. This has been taken advantage of by the sharks who always swarm round the yamens to further their own ends, and heavy exactions have been inflicted on the more settled and respectable of the inhabitants, who offered the easiest prey. The consequence is that the best disposed of the people, who in ordinary times are the mainstay of the government, have been alienated and driven into a state not far removed from rebellion. On top of this, the Christian population, elated with success, have been endeavouring to take advantage of the position to revenge themselves on their former persecutors; and this feeling has been encouraged by their spiritual leaders, who, instead of preaching forbearance, have been urging their flocks to further demands. The consequence is that between the exactions of their own officials and the ill-timed aggressiveness of the Christians, aided and abetted by the Roman priests, the entire of Southern Chihli has been thrown into a state of confusion approaching its condition during the Boxer movement, and a far more dangerous and uncompromising hatred of Christianity engendered amongst the population at large.

This situation is rendered the more dangerous that, in pursuit of its policy with regard to the Roman religious orders, the French Government is seeking to make an unholy compromise with these very orders, and would apparently atone for the harsh measures it has felt itself compelled to take against them in France, in consequence of their continual interferences with the government of the state, by giving them a free hand in China, where it fondly imagines the same arts can be practised without detriment to itself. The Chinese have long observed and wondered at this strange contrariety, and have made many efforts to free themselves from a dominion so dangerous and humiliating, but hitherto without avail. It is unfortunately the too frequent effect of an injustice maintained by force that in the revulsion which follows innocent and guilty alike have to suffer. We have already had the first act of this dreary drama, and Christianity itself has been the sufferer. Hitherto the other Powers have stood by, and, though they saw the evil, have refrained from stretching out a hand to remedy it. They have themselves been borne into the vortex, and in the condition of China, see the inevitable result; and yet in the infliction of these penalties they have made themselves not only consenting but participating parties in an act contrary to and subversive of all settled government. Is it too much to hope that before a repetition of the scenes of two years ago, only aggravated by a knowledge of injustice on the part of Europe, some spark of the duties they owe, not to Christianity in particular, but to civilisation in general, will be found to have entered into the councils of the great Powers? We do not desire to prophesy; but the immediate situation in fraught with danger.

The Empress of Japan has contributed 10,000 yen towards the International Costumes Exhibition to be held at St. Petersburg in November.

SIR THOMAS JACKSON'S DEPARTURE.

(*Daily Press*, 14th May.)

Hongkong has this year said good-bye to quite a number of old residents, several of whom have been identified with the life and history of the Colony for a long period of years. With none, however, will she part with such great and general regret as with Sir THOMAS JACKSON. His has been for so long a name to conjure with in the world of finance in the Far East, and his presence has become so familiar in our midst, that it is most difficult to conceive — although temporary absences should have prepared us in some measure for the wrench—that he is now permanently severing his connection with the Colony. To say that he will be sorely missed is to put the matter very tritely: a poor expression indeed of the real feeling of the community in connection with "T. J."! How he will be missed we shall know best when his genial presence is no longer with us to cheer, to reassure, and to assist. For not only has Sir THOMAS JACKSON built up the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to its present colossal proportions, but he has made that institution the great financial power in the Far East, the pivot of trade here, and he himself the friend and helper of all engaged in legitimate commerce. It is true that even his genius has not availed to arrest the steady decline of silver, but he has kept a firm hand on the financial helm, and imparted confidence where otherwise panic might have reigned supreme. To say that Sir THOMAS JACKSON was the WELLINGTON of finance is to say what is only the bare fact. He has shown all the best qualities of a great commander: self-reliance, foresight, courage, and confidence. His lengthy experience has endowed him with a resource that has always stood him in good stead. His excellent memory and power of coming to a swift decision have also been of the greatest assistance, while his strong nerve and steady determination have served to inspire confidence in those with whom he had to deal.

It may be interesting to those of our readers whose experience does not carry them back to the sixties to recall briefly the incidents in Sir THOMAS JACKSON'S long and honourable career in the Far East. He arrived in the Colony in the autumn of 1864 to join the Agra and Masterman's Bank, but left that institution at the commencement of August, 1866, to take service in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. His promotion in this institution was rapid, as his abilities soon began to be known. In April, 1867, he proceeded to Shanghai as accountant; in February, 1868, he went to Hankow to open the branch there, and soon afterwards in the same year he was appointed acting manager at Yokohama, where he remained for some two years. In March, 1870, he returned to Hongkong as sub-manager, but only occupied that position eighteen months, for in September, 1871, he was appointed manager of the branch at Yokohama. In March, 1874, he proceeded home on well earned leave of absence, and in October of that year he was made acting manager in London. In September, 1875, he resumed charge of the branch at Yokohama, but was not allowed to remain there long. His value had become too well known, and in March, 1876, he was appointed acting chief manager and was confirmed in this post in the following August. For ten years from this date Mr. JACKSON laboured with unwearied energy and unwavering faith in building up the financial edifice, which grew yearly in importance, wealth, and stability. In April, 1886, he left for England on twelve months' furlough, and resumed the chief management in September, 1887. Eighteen months later Mr. JACKSON was appointed manager in London, and left to take up that post in March, 1889. In May, 1890, he was recalled to take the helm once more at the head office, and remained here about nine months, returning to the London office in February, 1891. There for more than two years he continued, but in response to an urgent desire for his presence in Hongkong he once again returned in April, 1893, to resume the chief management, and, with the exception of a six months' leave of absence in 1900, has remained here ever since, the faithful pilot at the helm, whose unfaltering hand has guided the Bank to great and ever greater success in spite of increasing difficulties and growing competition. We have not gone into figures; it is sufficient to say that, while there was no dividend for the latter half of 1874 and the reserve fund was then reduced to $100,000, which was only increased to some $250,000 when Mr. JACKSON first took the helm, it has risen, during his most able management, to $14,250,000 at the present time. Sermons can be read in stones, and even dry figures can prove eloquent at times: these appeal even to the dullest imagination.

With Sir THOMAS JACKSON, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has always had the first place in his heart, the first place in his thoughts, and his career as a public man has therefore been less conspicuous than would otherwise have been the case. The great financial establishment he controlled so well had his best and fullest service; and whatever other interests claimed his attention or sympathy had to come second. His was indeed no divided allegiance to the great Bank; his loyalty was whole-hearted, and would have satisfied the most exacting. But close as was his attention to the Bank, Sir THOMAS JACKSON—who never spared himself—made time to perform many functions and do numerous public services. He was made a Justice of the Peace so far back as 1876, and in 1884 was nominated by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce as its first representative in the Legislative Council, and sat for two years, resigning in 1886, when about to proceed to England on leave. Sir THOMAS served on the Retrenchment Committee in 1894, the Queen's Statue Committee in 1896, and the Insanitary Properties Commission, 1896. He also repeatedly acted as Honorary Treasurer to various funds, amongst which may be named the Irish Famine Relief Fund in 1880; Hongkong Jubilee Committee in 1890; the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Committee in 1897; the Indian Famine Relief Fund Committee in the same year; the Typhoon Fund Committee in 1900; and the Queen's Memorial Fund Committee in 1901. All these funds profited greatly by his association with them, his advocacy being most persuasive. Her Majesty Queen VICTORIA, in 1900, conferred on Mr. JACKSON the honour of knighthood,—and it is not too much to say that no mark of royal favour was ever better bestowed in the Far East or gave wider satisfaction. Sir THOMAS JACKSON has done long and yeoman service in connection with the Chamber of Commerce. He was first elected a member of the Committee in February, 1877, and has, when in the Colony, served as such ever since. His practical experience and great knowledge of commercial matters have always been freely placed at the service of the Chamber,

but it was not until 1901, and then very reluctantly, that he would accept the post of Chairman, to which he has done so much credit. For several years, he was also a member of the Committee of the China Association, and at one time presided over that body, but withdrew from it about two years ago, finding it impossible to reconcile his duty to the Bank with taking an active part in the political aims of the Association. Sir THOMAS JACKSON has always carried weight with the various Governors of Hongkong, and his influence, owing to his moderation and good sense, has been beneficially exerted. It is, however, primarily as a successful banker that Sir THOMAS JACKSON has made for himself a most enduring fame, not only in local annals but also in every part of the financial world. In that department he stands head and shoulders above all compeers, and there, we doubt not, he is content to rest his claims to public appreciation.

While the Bank has ever been the mistress of his affections, and he has been ready to spend most of his remaining time on the public affairs of the Colony, Sir THOMAS has always been a keen supporter of all sport and rational amusement. No one knows better than himself that all work and no play produces a dull boy. His unostentatious benevolence is too well known to call for remark. He has always loved to do good by stealth, and no one in real need ever sought his assistance in vain. Sir THOMAS JACKSON has been the confidant of many, and the sound advice received has, in numerous cases, saved the recipient from disaster. As chief manager, the relations of Sir THOMAS with the members of the Bank Staff were not merely cordial; they might be termed affectionate. He took the keenest interest in their welfare and amusements, and was ever ready with a joke, or, when necessary, with encouragement and advice. Sir THOMAS JACKSON is now finally bidding farewell to Hongkong, and, much as the Colony will deplore his loss, he necessity for the parting is self-evident. He has given his best years, his best energies, his maturest wisdom to the Bank, but it is now time that he should enjoy a well earned leisure in the old country. No matter how robust the constitution, no matter how vigorous the mind, there comes a time in this exhausting climate when a halt should be called, and tired Nature allowed to rest and recuperate. That fact has prudently been recognised by Sir THOMAS JACKSON, and he will leave here while yet his health is unimpaired and all his faculties are fully alert. That he may long enjoy the leisure so well earned is, we are sure, the fervent wish of all his friends in this Colony. Meantime, they would dearly like to have an enduring reminder of his most interesting personality, and it is with much satisfaction we learn that there is a movement to erect a statue either in the Bank itself or its immediate vicinity which will be a permanent memorial. Perhaps the most suitable site of all would be in front of the City Hall facing the Bank, but that is a detail which will no doubt receive due consideration at the proper moment. It will, in either case, afford genuine pleasure to the colonists of every race and class to see the familiar features of "T. J." engraved in bronze or marble always present on the scene of his former activities. For his own part, we can well believe, he wants neither marble, nor bronze, nor carving as a record; he would be content to leave his acts to speak for him and his memory to rest in the esteem of his friends. But, as he belongs in some measure to posterity and as his career is interwoven with the history of this small but rising Colony, it is only fitting that a monument to his fame should be erected in testimony of the esteem in which she holds her most distinguished citizen.

THE COLONY'S WATER SUPPLY.

(*Daily Press*, 10th May.)

The heavy rains of the last few days, though they have not ended the water famine, have at any rate put a period to the season of total draught, and once more it is possible for everyone in the Colony to procure some water free of charge, if not through the ordinary supply-pipes. The advent of the long expected rain, though with it we are looking for an increase in the plague figures, after the wont of previous years, seems to justify a cessation of the keenest anxiety which was felt as to the health of the city should the famine continue. It is too early yet to say that our annual wet season has set in, but at least the record duration (within the time of the British occupation of Hongkong) of water-failure has reached its termination. It is now that it becomes incumbent on the authorities to provide without delay against the possibility of the recurrence of such a state of affairs as existed this year. We have on many occasions in the past urged on the Government the necessity of learning from the failures of its predecessors that it will not do to increase the water-storage capacity of this island only in accordance with the wants of an average growth of population. This has always before resulted in the completion of new reservoirs finding the estimated growth of population at the time of their commencement to have been far too small. Nor is this to be wondered at, seeing that every inducement is offered for the Chinese to crowd into the Colony, regardless of the actual living space available for them. Yet when the water-works now in hand are completed it is probable, or rather practically certain, that they will be inadequate for the population of that day. We are planning, too, to open up still further, by means of tramways, the suburbs of Victoria, which will not only enable the present great overcrowding to be diminished but will also attract new immigrants. Do those to whom the government and sanitation are entrusted feel confident that they can, with present schemes, meet the demands for water in the near future? If they do, certainly the residents in the Colony do not share that confidence. We look to the Government to manifest its sense of responsibility by proceeding without delay to consider the possibility of adding to Hongkong's water-supply to a much larger extent than is at present planned. We must have a surplus, in order to meet such contingencies as this year's drought, and this surplus the island has never yet had. In the meantime, it is advisable that the waste of water entailed by maintaining a constant supply during periods of abundance should be stopped. A reckless expenditure of water is inevitable with a native population whose education in municipal matters is as low as Hongkong's. A curtailment of the hours of supply before water-shortage sets in will diminish this waste. We believe we are right in saying that at no period last year were all our reservoirs full, Yet the residents, native and foreign, were able to get water for the whole of the twenty-four hours right up to the time when it occurred to the authorities that water was likely to run short this year. This prodigality out of our only comparative abundance is partly to answer for the recent distress. There was in the first place an insufficient reserve in event of emergencies, and the right measures were not taken to husband that reserve. Both these errors can and should be rectified.

FRENCH ACTIVITY IN THE SOUTH.

(*Daily Press*, 16th May.)

We have had repeatedly to comment, during the past year, on the many signs of French activity in the neighbourhood of her Indo-Chinese colonial empire, more especially in the northward and north-easterly direction. To signs of this activity in the vicinity of Macao itself we have been able on more than one occasion to be the first to draw attention. Once again, in the letter of our Macao correspondent which appeared in yesterday's issue, we announced a fresh manifestation of energy on the part of our restless southern neighbours; for, though the last move, in connection with the Ca Tai promontory, seems to have been conducted with the full cognisance of the Paris authorities, it cannot be doubted that it is but part of the ambitious schemes with which M. DOUMER, whom now we must, we suppose, look on as the late Governor-General of Indo-China, has identified himself. As our correspondent reported in his letter of the 13th instant, it is given out that the plan is merely to establish, or rather re-establish, a French naval hospital within half-an-hour's distance of the Portuguese colony of Macao. But it so happens, according to our Macao correspondent's letter, that the site in question, with its excellent anchorage, commands the approaches to both Macao and Canton. The Chinese apparently are willing to allow the land to pass into foreign hands. But the question is not one which concerns the Chinese alone. It has been obvious for some time that the French have been making desperate efforts to build up a strong position in the Canton neighbourhood. It is not for nothing that the French flag has been exhibited so prominently in Canton waters, even on sampans, that a French post office has been set up, or the various other tokens of French activity have been exhibited. What attention is being paid by the local government to such proceedings it is of course not within our competence to say. We do not think that the matter is being entirely neglected, but it requires the utmost vigilance and energy on the part of Hongkong and of the home authorities alike to meet such persistent effort as is shown by the agents of France. There was until lately a tendency among the more careless and ignorant at home to acquiesce in the absurd theory (supported even by some maps purporting to give the "spheres of influence in China") that the two Kwang provinces were in a way under the tutelage of France. There is not a single fact nor figure which can be adduced to support this. Neither before nor at the present time has any nation but Great Britain held a leading position in the trade returns of this section of China. In spite of a want of encouragement and absolute neglect by the home Government, British traders have held their own with the rest of the world on the waterways and the coast of China nearest this Colony. Circumstances have not changed, and we still want no hostile power established within a few hours' distance of Hongkong, whether in innocent guise or in overt defiance.

In another quarter news reaches us of French activity in South-eastern Asia. As, however, reliable information from the actual spot is not yet to hand, we shall not dwell at length upon the matter. A

telegram to London, dated the 30th April, says that "the Siamese Government having "made an important movement of troops "the French Minister at Bangkok has made "representations on the subject." Furthermore, a Berlin telegram of the 10th instant to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* states that France has demanded official measures from Siam to suppress the rebellion in the Mekong Valley, intimating that if nothing is done the French Government will proceed to see about protecting her own interests there. It was previously reported that troubles in Laos and Battambong were causing anxiety in Indo-China. Now, were it the fact that Siamese aggression or impotence to control Siamese subjects was the cause of difficulties to the French authorities on the Indo-Chinese border, France would be justified in remonstrating and indeed in taking stronger measures. But is this so? The attitude of France toward Siam, down to the illegal retention of Chantaboon and beyond, has been one of constant encroachment. It is clear that there must be some limits to this. Siam, denuded one by one of its provinces bordering on Indo-China, will be of no use as a buffer state, and, therefore, we cannot sit still and see the process which menaces not only the existence of Siam, but our own frontier's ultimate security.

BRITISH NAVAL STRENGTH IN FAR EAST.

(*Daily Poess*, 17th May.)

It is eported from Japanese sources, but no confirmation has reached us from any other quarter, that after the Coronation festivities Great Britain will despatch to Far Eastern waters two more battleships, five cruisers, and three gunboats. These, it is stated, will be an addition to the existing strength of the British Squadron, and will reinstate the balance of naval power disturbed by the recent changes in the French fleet in these waters. Now the most recent announcement with regard to the French fleet in the Far East was that it was to be brought up to the following strength, separated into two divisions: — First Division—The armoured cruiser *Montcalm* Vice-Admiral MARECHAL's flagship; the fast cruisers *Guichen*, *Chateau-renault* and *De la Gravière*; and the protected cruisers *Friant* and *Bugeaud*. Second Division—The fast cruiser *D'Entrecasteaux*, flagship of Rear-Admiral BAYLE; and the protected cruisers *Pascal*, *Sfax*, *Catinat*, *Infernet*, and *D'Estrées*. In addition to these, of course, there will be a number of gunboats, as at present, both sea-going and for river and coast service, etc. There are now in these waters ten French cruisers, including the *Bugeaud*, *D'Entrecasteaux*, *Friant*, and *Pascal*, which are to be retained here; while in place of the other six France will send out eight more, bringing the cruisers up to twelve in number, which will make the French squadron in the Far East the fourth strongest, ranking only after the British, Japanese, and Russian. In view of this increase, according to the Japanese report, Great Britain is to make the above-mentioned addition to her fleet. Previously, it will be remembered, we were told that, in consequence of the Anglo-Japanese Agreement, not only would it not be necessary to add to the strength of our present fleet out here, but it was probably even to be reduced slightly. We have therefore two conflicting stories from which to take our choice. The earlier one would seem to be the more probable, all things considered, but for the fact that the unusual number of launchings of new vessels recently gives an unusual opportunity of increasing our naval strength here, should it be thought necessary. The Admiralty, however, has announced its attention of trusting to ships rather than "bricks and mortar", in accordance with which decision Weihaiwei is to be left almost unfortified, and it may be that in pursuance of this policy we are to get an unexpected addition to our naval strength in the Far East. Still, as we have said, there is no confirmation from other sources of this report which is circulated by the Japanese papers, so that it would be unsafe to build any theories thereon.

MINING REGULATIONS: THE PEKING DRAFT.

True to its traditional character, the Foreign Office at Peking has been trying its hand at drafting "Mining Regulations," the chief features of which are the opportunities they would offer for the growth of a gigantic system of fraud and bribery. In this respect the proposed regulations are eminently satisfactory —to the Chinese Foreign Office—but in all others they display that happy-go-lucky indefiniteness so peculiarly dear to all Chinese officials, whatever their rank. The following declaration is, however, interesting, as stating clearly that the concession of mining rights is to be open to the world without respect of persons or nationality:—

Applicants for mining licenses may be either Chinese intending to work on their own account, foreigners undertaking to do the work for Chinese, or Chinese and foreigners working together on joint account. The land, however, being Chinese and the sanction to work thereon emanating from the Chinese Government, all persons engaged in mining, no matter who they be, are bound to conform to Chinese regulations; and China, exercising her sovereign rights, will undertake to settle all questions which may arise.

This of course is all right, and would be inexpugnable were there any definition of what are the sovereign rights of the Chinese Government. Unfortunately this is the very point on which some definition is essential, but on which we look in vain for an explanation.

So again there is little or no fault to be found with the following:—

The owner of a property having a natural right of objection, the applicant must first come to terms with him as to price, &c., and as no private sale is permissible, he must report for the purposes of registration the agreement arrived at.

Taken by itself, there can apparently be no cause to find fault with the above stipulation, which is essentially fair and equitable in itself. In practise however, it, just leaves open the point at issue, and will certainty be construed by the first obstructive official into giving him the personal right to block effectively every promising opportunity. Similar stipulations exist in present treaties, with the result that by bringing influence to bear on the vendor all free arrangements, which it was the professed object of the stipulation to protect, are rendered unavailing.

The twelfth article is equally in principle unobjectionable. Private property sought to be acquired for mining purposes must be paid for at market rates; in the case of Government lands it will in all cases be leasehold. In any case the land required will remain subject to the ordinary land taxes.

So far so good, but then commences one of those incomprehensible stipulations so dear to Chinese officials, and plainly intended to leave a door open for after exactions. Only sufficient land can be acquired to sink shafts and erect buildings; any further purchase of land is prohibited. There is, however, a stipulation, apparently intended as a saving clause, which states in so many words: "Notwithstanding the owner's right, above referred to, individual interests must defer to state requirements, and should the Government desire to open mines on any private property whatever, it retains the right of doing so on giving fair compensation to those interested."

These are the sole provisions with regard to the property to be acquired in mines, and it will be observed that with the exception of the reservation of the land tax and the ground needed for buildings, shafts, &c., there is absolutely no definition of the condition as to mining rights, drainage, roads (other than a stipulation as the railways to the nearest port), local taxation, &c. In fact, a mining association, on the strength of these mining regulations, may have complied with every stipulation, have obtained the consent of the local administration, have on this received Imperial authorisation, have purchased the soil required for shafts and buildings, and yet discover itself unable to raise a single ton of mineral. The main question likely to be raised in a mining concession is the right of working underground the area under which these rights extend; and last, but most important, who is the owner of the minerals lying underneath the surface. By a fiction such as underlies the whole Chinese edifice of government, the soil of the Empire belongs to the Emperor, and the tillers of the land are only tenants paying him rent for his permission to cultivate it. Of course, in no country possessing an administration, however crude, does such a law prevail, and in China private ownership is by law as firmly fixed and protected as elsewhere, but in China ownership of the soil does not always extend to what is below the mere surface. A man may own a grave, for instance, on a plot of land, and yet have no ownership in the soil and no right to vend; and the actual owner, though he have complete power of sale, yet has no power actually to convey. Nothing whatever is said on this most special subject; so that on the recipient of the licence getting to work he may find a thousand claims for compensation, if not an actual injunction against his setting to work at all. The whole question here again is raised as to the complicated relations between the Imperial and the Provincial governments; and as in the case of *lekin*, it is hoped that the foreigner will step in and adjust these differences between lord and underlord, but always at his own expenses,

One thing is not, however, forgotten, and that is what the would-be miner has to pay to Peking. According to the views of the Imperial clique, Peking would like to charge on coal and iron *five* per cent. on the output, on mineral oils *ten* per cent., on gold and silver *fifteen* per cent. and on precious stones *twenty-five*. It need hardly be said that in most cases such charges would be simply prohibitive. But this is not all that Peking would desire to have; for on shipping the one it would need five per cent. more as export duty; the sole exemption—one not, be it observed, at its own expense—proposed to be granted is that products mined, after paying exportduty, shall be free in the interior from *lekin*.

The whole affair is, in fact, an elaborate joke, but Ministers have been so frequently taken in by similar pleasantries, and have received with such dutiful complacency the smile of scarcely concealed derision which greeted each successive essay at practical joking, always at their own expense, that it is no wonder the Dowager entertainer should take full advantage of the bent of her guests.

TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

TROUBLES IN THE NORTH.

SHANGHAI, 9th May, 7.48 p.m.

A serious famine is reported as being prevalent in the South-east of Hunan. Twent-three districts are affected. The officials are apathetic. A rising is feared unless measures for relief are undertaken.

SHANGHAI, 13th May, 8.20 p.m.

It is reported from Paotingfu that H.E. Viceroy Yuan Shikai has telegraphed to H.E. Sheng that the disciplined Imperial troops on the 9th inst. recaptured Nankung [?], where the local magistrate had previously been murdered by the rebels, after a desperate battle lasting for seven hours in South-western Chihli. The rebels' trenches were choked with dead and dying. Yuan Shikai's cavalry and artillery did the best work in the fighting.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 15th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Lieut.-Col. Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr Fung Wa Chun; and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

REOPENING OF WELLS.

A minute by the Medical Officer of Health was submitted strongly recommending, in connection with the question of the reopening of certain wells, that the Board should lay down the rule that no wells within domestic buildings should be reopened, as it is impossible for them to be kept unpolluted in Chinese dwellings.

Colonel Hughes minuted that he supported the Medical Officer of Health, as did also Mr. E. Osborne, Hon. W. Chatham, and Mr. F. J. Badeley.

Mr. Lau Chupak minuted:—"Any well which is not subject to sewage contamination, though it may happen to be situated inside the house, should be allowed to be reopened."

Hon. A. W. Brewin minuted:—'Petitioners should be directed to apply to D. P. W."

The PRESIDENT.—Regarding this question of reopening wells, I move that the Board recommend that no more wells be reopened in the City of Victoria. There is now every indication of an abundance of water, and, seeing that this is so, I am of opinion that it would be unwise to reopen wells all over the City. Many of them are shallow surface wells less than twelve feet in depth, and as such are liable to contamination. The matter was carefully considered by the Board in 1894 and 1895, and it was decided to close the wells as a sanitary measure, seeing how polluted the water in many of them was. There is now the further danger of pollution by cholera germs. With regard to the water question generally, although an abundant supply of water to dwelling-houses is one of the first sanitary principles, this, I submit, is not applicable to a town with a Chinese population such as that of Victoria. It is excellent for a town of Europeans, but with the Chinese, who break nearly every principle of sanitation, it is waste to lay on water to every Chinese dwelling-house, and it would go far to prevent the possibility of another water famine if the old system were reverted to of hydrants where the Chinese could obtain their water. Frequently during the recent scarcity of water we have seen taps running on continuously for the short time that water was laid on. The Chinese cannot be taught to be careful in the matter.

The Board divided upon the question; and it was decided that no wells in domestic buildings be reopened and that no more wells in the City of Victoria be reopened. Mr. Fung Wa Chun voted against the proposition, and Mr. E. Osborne did not vote.

CLEANSING WORK.

The report of the work done by the cleansing gangs in Kowloon during the fortnight ended 10th May showed that 607 houses had been dealt with, the number of floors fumigated being 1,613 and the number cleaned 1,664.

CHOLERA IN BORNEO.

Correspondence was laid on the table with reference to the importation into Labuan of 12 cases of cholera on board the s.s. *Sandakan*. A telegram of date 7th May stated that Borneo was free from cholera.

NEW LATRINE.

A plan was approved of a new latrine to be erected in proximity to No. 3 Police Station.

OUTBREAK OF RINDERPEST.

The following letter from Mr. A. Gibson, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, was read:—"I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that several cases of rinderpest have occurred in a cattleshed containing 19 head of cattle belonging to the Dairy Farm Company at Pokfulum. The shed in which the disease has occurred is about 150 yards distant from any other cattleshed, and in view of the fact that the whole of the herd were inoculated some time ago, and have now been re-inoculated, I do not anticipate that the outbreak will extend beyond this shed. The whole of the animals in the infected area are young, and none of them are giving milk, so that no danger can arise from the milk supply. I would recommend that the Board declare the shed an infected area, and in view of the urgency of the matter I have engaged two watchmen provisionally at a dollar a day, and beg to request the authority of the Board for their appointment."

The PRESIDENT moved—"That the Board declare shed No. 7 at the Dairy Farm, Pokfulum to be an infected area, under the provisions of Bye-law 12 of Schedule A of Ordinance 17 of 1887."

Lieut.-Col. HUGHES seconded, and the resolution was adopted.

This was all the public business.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3 p.m. on the 5th May, 1902.—Present: Sir Thomas Jackson (Chairman), Hon. C. S. Sharp (Vice-Chairman) Messrs. A. Haupt, E. A. Hewett, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, W. Poate, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, Hon. T. H. Whitehead (*ex officio*), and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the last Monthly Meeting (held 1st April, 1902) were read and confirmed.

CONGRATULATORY.

The CHAIRMAN—Before proceeding with the agenda, gentlemen, I should like (and I am sure you will all join me) to congratulate Mr. Sharp on the honour conferred upon him by the Governor in his appointment to a seat in the Legislative Council. I am confident he will do credit to the selection, and fill the post with ability and success. (Applause.)

Hon. C. S. Sharp briefly acknowledged the compliment.

THE SECRETARYSHIP.

Mr. WILCOX announced that the Committee, having considered the applications for the vacant post of Secretary, had decided to offer the appointment to Mr. A. R. Lowe, who had accepted it. Letters announcing that the post has been filled, were, on the 21st April, despatched to all the candidates.

The CHAIRMAN welcomed Mr. Lowe and expressed the belief that he would fill the post with credit.

ALLEGED DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES ON PAPER.

Mr. WILCOX stated that in accordance with the decision come to at last meeting, a letter had been addressed to the Shanghai Chamber enclosing copy of the Tai Shing Paper Manufacturing Co.'s letter complaining of differential duties being imposed on their products as compared with those levied on Shanghai makes of the same quality, and asking if they could give any information on the subject.

Read reply, dated 10th April, which was to the effect that the Shanghai Chamber being a cosmopolitan body, all communications had to be addressed to the Senior Consul, and it would be better therefore for the Hongkong Chamber to send the Tai Shing Co.'s letter direct to Sir Jas. Mackay or to the British Consul-General.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said he thought the Shanghai Chamber had rather begged the question. This Chamber had not asked them to make representations to the Consul-General or to Sir Jas. Mackay, but had simply applied to them for information preparatory.

After some discussion.

It was decided to address the British Consul-General at Shanghai and Sir Jas. Mackay direct on the subject.

OBSTRUCTIONS TO NAVIGATION IN THE CANTON RIVER.

It was announced that copies of the Memorandum by Capt. Lloyd were, with covering letters, sent on the 18th April to H.E. the British Minister at Peking and to Sir Jas. Mackay. A letter was also addressed to the Canton Chamber on the 4th April requesting its co-operation in taking steps to secure the removal of the obstructions in the Canton River. A letter of thanks had also been addressed to Capt. Lloyd.

Read reply from the Canton Chamber received on the 19th April stating that they would co-operate with the Chamber for this purpose with much pleasure.

Also read reply from Sir James Mackay to the effect that the question was receiving his attention.

THE USE OF FOREIGN FLAGS BY JUNKS TO EVADE PAYMENT OF CHING-FEI.

Mr. WILCOX stated that, in terms of the decision reached at last meeting, a letter was, on the 5th April, addressed to the local Government, calling attention to the abuse of the harbour by Chinese junks whose owners, after taking in a cargo and leaving port, hoist foreign flags and at the Taishan Customs Station exhibit Consular authority for doing so, for the purpose of evading payment of *Ching-fei*, a local tax now collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs.

Read reply, received on the 23rd April, from the Colonial Secretary stating that the matter had been considered by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, who is in full sympathy with the opinions expressed by the Chamber, and the correspondence would be forwarded to the Secretary of State for such action as the Home Government may deem desirable.

The CHAIRMAN said that this was a satisfactory reply.

CABLE RATES.

Mr. WILCOX reported that, in conformity with the decision arrived at last meeting a further letter was, on the 3rd April, addressed to the local Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co. calling attention to the reduction in rates at Singapore and urging the claims of the Company's constituents in Hongkong and China to similar consideration.

Read letter, dated 4th April, in reply stating that the substance of the Chamber's letter had been communicated to the Directors of the Company by wire and a copy of it was being posted by the outgoing mail.

Also read further letters in continuation of the correspondence dated 12th and 18th April, in which Mr. Von der Pfordten stated (1) that a reply to the Chamber's letter was being sent from London in a few days; (2) that the Chairman's remark at the annual meeting, *viz.*, "that the unfair discrimination between India and the Far East is probably due to the influence of the Great Northern Company" is not correct; and (3) that the postponement of the reduction of tariffs on telegrams from Europe to China and Japan is not due to any resistance on the part of the Great Northern Company, but the reduction is dependent on the co-operation of many different Administrations and cannot be arranged before the International Telegraph Conference meets in London next year.

The CHAIRMAN said the difficulties pointed out by Mr. Von der Pfordten were, with difference, encountered in India, but Lord Curzon insisted upon reduction in rates, and having sufficient influence, obtained it.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD advocated continuing the agitation for a reduction in rates to a reasonable basis, and expressed the opinion that if Hongkong had the same backing as India the difficulties would soon be surmounted.

After some discussion,

It was decided to reply to the last two letters accepting the explanation as to the position of the Great Northern Company in the matter, but to express the opinion firmly held by the Committee, that if it were really desired to grant to Hongkong and China the same concessions that have been made to India and the Straits Settlements the difficulties raised by the various administrations might soon be arranged.

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

Read letter from Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, dated 15th April, calling the attention of the Committee to a letter which had appeared in that day's issue of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, under the above heading, and asking them to take steps to ascertain whether the statements contained in that letter are correct or otherwise.

The CHAIRMAN stated that, before approaching the Government on the subject, it was thought advisable to seek confirmation or otherwise from the Director of the Sicawei Observatory of the statement that the notices issued by that establishment are "flatly refused at Victoria."

A reply to that enquiry is now being awaited.

COLLISIONS BETWEEN JUNKS AND STEAMERS.

Read letter signed by the River Steamboat Companies, dated 19th April, asking the Chamber to approach the Government with a view to obtain such a modification of the law as would do away with or lessen the disadvantage under which steamboat-owners labour in the case of actions brought against them by junk owners for alleged damages through collision, and quoting a recent case to show the loss to which the former may be unjustly put while the latter incur little risk in commencing a suit.

The CHAIRMAN said that a letter in support of the companies' contention was, on the 25th April, addressed to the Government, and a copy of the companies' letter to the Chamber was forwarded at the same time. He thought they had a very good peg to hang their case on, the instance given being a strong one. So far no reply had been received from the Government.

INCREASE ON THE DUTIES LEVIED ON OPIUM AT CANTON.

Read letter, dated 21st April, addressed by the Opium Hongs to the Chamber stating that the Canton authorities have increased the duties on all kinds of opium from 3 candereens per tael weight=Tls. 36. to 12 candareens=Tls. 144 per chest in the case of Bengal opium, the drug chiefly used in Kwangtung, and asking the Committee to take steps to protect this important trade.

The CHAIRMAN said that a letter was on the 24th April, addressed to Mr. Scott, the Acting British Consul at Canton, asking for further information before proceeding in the matter, and that gentleman had replied confirming the statement, but adding that the compradore of one of the foreign opium firms had offered to form a syndicate to farm the new tax.

Mr. WILCOX said he had heard that day that there was a report current among the Chinese to the effect that instructions had come down from Peking to the Provincial authorities disallowing the proposed increase in the duty on opium. He could not say whether the news was authentic, but the Chinese had the knack of picking up information of this kind by backstairs processes, and native rumours were often near the mark. No doubt, however, if the statement was correct it would soon be verified.

The CHAIRMAN said he only hoped that the report would turn out correct. They might wait a little for its confirmation or contradiction.

THE RATS ORDINANCE, 1902.

Read letter dated 10th April, from the Colonial Secretary drawing the Chamber's attention to the Regulations drawn up under Section 3 of the above Ordinance and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 15th March, and requsting that these should be brought to the notice of the shipping community.

Some discussion ensued upon this question, it being thought by some of the members that the sanitary authorities were the proper source from whence such notice should be given to the shipping community; but eventually it was decided to draw attention to it in the published minutes.

These regulations are to be found on p. 334 of the *Gazette* of the 15th March and apply to all ships not propelled by oar except junks or lorchas not propelled by steam. The attention of wharf owners and steamship agents is specially directed to them. There are also provisions to prevent rats from entering buildings, to which the attention of property owners is drawn.

FRENCH CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 26th April, transmitting copy of a further despatch on the above subject from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the effect that the Tariff Bill was passed by the French Senate on the 21st February.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES AND CANE SUGAR.

Read letter from the local Government, dated 11th April, transmitting to this Chamber copy of a letter received from the Chamber of Commerce at Georgetown, British Guiana, giving the text of a telegram despatched by that body to the Governments of Canada and Australia urging that England should do justice over sugar bounties, kartels, and rum surtax for all British cane sugar producing countries, especially the West Indies, and praying for support in getting effect given to the petition.

After some discussion,

It was decided that the question was beyond the province of this Chamber, and to reply to the Colonial Secretary to that effect.

CLAYTON'S RAT-DESTROYING APPARATUS.

A letter from the Clayton Fire Extinguishing and Ventilating Co., Ld., dated London 21st March, was then produced, in which further particulars are given of the rat-destroying apparatus.

As the Government had already asked the opinion of the Chamber on this aparatus and its suitability here, which was answered in the negative, it was considered unnecessary to discuss the question further.

THE SINGAPORE CHAMBER AND THE CORONATION CELEBRATION.

The CHAIRMAN said that in redemption of a promise made on the 6th January last, a letter was, on the 24th April, addressed to the Singapore Chamber of Commerce giving the principal features of the programme to be observed here on the celebration of the Coronation of King Edward VII.

PROPOSAL TO LICENSE CHINESE PILOTS.

Read letter, dated 2nd May, from Mr. E. Osborne, Secretary of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ld., bringing to notice the great risks run by ship owners and wharf owners through the employment of uncertificated Chinese pilots, and proposing that the Government should be asked to license these pilots, the Chamber being requested to lay the matter before the Government.

Mr. WILCOX thought it was decidedly a question for the Chamber to take up. The Chinese engineers had been compelled to take out certificates, and this had resulted in a better class of men being employed.

Mr. HEWETT was of the same opinion and thought it was very necessary that competent men should be secured as pilots.

After some discussion,

It was unanimously decided to address the Government on the subject and suggest the advisability of granting certificates to pilots so that control can be exercised over them.

THE APPROACHING DEPARTURE OF THE CHAIRMAN.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN—As in all probability this will be the last occasion on which we shall have the honour of Sir Thomas Jackson presiding at our meetings, I am desirous of saying a few words to express the great regret we all feel at his approaching departure from among us and our high appreciation of the many valuable services he has rendered this Chamber of Commerce. (Applause.) It is now some twenty-five years since Sir Thomas first joined this Committee, with which he has been closely connected almost ever since, and he has been Chairman now for more than a year, and I think you will all heartily agree that the manner in which the business of the Committee has been conducted by him has been such as to merit the highest commendation and been worthy of the best tradition of this body. Your term of office, sir, has been coincident with a most momentous period for commerce in this part of the world, and during it we have had questions coming up before us of the deepest importance to trading interests, and it has been a source of gratification and advantage to us to have at our head one who out of the fulness of his knowledge of and long acquaintance with commercial matters out here has been able to bring so much wise counsel, shrewd advice, and good guidance to bear on the consideration of the important matters coming before us. (Applause.) Unfortunately, we are about to lose your advice and assistance before the period of change is finished, and I venture to think, sir, that it will be a most difficult, if not impossible matter to find as a successor to you in the chair one with anything like the same knowledge and grip of the commercial questions of the day out here, as you have been able to show. I do not propose however, to inflict on you a long panegyric, as I more than half suspect that such would only be distasteful to you, but I feel I am on firm ground, and that I voice the opinions of all the members, in expressing the great regret we feel at losing you, and our united hope that you will have a happy reunion with your family at home and be spared to enjoy many years of honourable and well merited retirement after your long period of work in the Far East. (Loud applause.) I now beg to propose the following resolution:—"That this Committee place on record its regret at the departure of Sir Thomas Jackson, and its high appreciation of the many valuable service rendered by him to this Chamber of Commerce, both as Committeeman and as Chairman."

Mr. POATE—I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by the Vice-Chairman. I do not think I can add anything to what has been said by Mr. Sharp, who has expressed our views pretty fully.

The CHAIRMAN—I am sure, gentlemen, that the little I have been able to do for this Chamber has been to me a great pleasure to perform, especially with the co-operation I have met with. I have always considered the Chamber of Commerce to be the most representative body in the Colony and capable of doing more good work than any other institution or body here, and the best services should therefore be given to the Chamber. During the long period I have been connected with the Committee I have met with the most cheerful co-operation from all concerned, and I have been associated with some of the best men we have ever had in the Colony in this Chamber. I have again to express the great obligation I am under to Mr. Wilcox, whose steady co-operation, wide knowledge, and untiring energy have helped materially to make my term of Chairmanship acceptable to you all, as evinced by the cordial vote of thanks you have just passed, and which I greatly appreciate. (Applause.)

Mr. WILCOX briefly acknowledged the compliment paid to him by the Chairman, assuring him that the remembrance of his appreciation would afford him lasting satisfaction.

The meeting then terminated.

THE CHINA CONTINGENT FOR THE CORONATION.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO VOLUNTEERS.

A complimentary dinner to the contingent of Volunteers who left for England on Wednesday on the *Empress of Japan* to represent the Colony at the Coronation of H.M. the King, was given in the Hon. C. P. Chater's bungalow at Kowloon on the 10th inst. by members of the Corps not included in the contingent. Major Pritchard, the Commandant, presided, and the other officers present were Major Chapman, F.B. (in command of the contingent), Lieut. Armstrong, F.B. (second in command), Captain Macdonald, F.B., Captain Grieves, "D" Co., Captain Ordish, "B" Co., Lieut. Macdonald, F.B., Lieut. Sayers, "B" Co., Lieut. Mitchell, "E" Co., Lieut. Oliver, "B" Co., and Lieut. Wheeler, "D" Co. Over a hundred non-commissioned officers and men attended the dinner, which was a most enjoyable one, and which was enhanced by the selections played at intervals by the excellent band of the Hongkong Regiment, present by kind permission of Major Berger and officers of the regiment. During the evening, too, songs were given by Gun. Hays, Private Stevenson, and others, and an amusing recitation was contributed by Sergt.-Major Northcote, who caused great laughter by the appropriate introduction of allusions to the home-going contingent.

After the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, Major PRITCHARD proposed the toast of the evening—the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Coronation contingent, coupled with the name of Major Chapman. Of all the troops that would take part in the processional ceremony there were none, he said, who would attract more attention than the colonial troops (hear, hear) and the feeling in this Colony was that the contingent going from here should be the best of all. (Applause.) That being so, continued Major Pritchard, he trusted that every man in the contingent, not only for his own sake but for the sake of the Corps and the Colony, would do all he possibly could to acquit himself as a soldier and a gentleman and be a credit to the Corps, the Colony, and himself. (Loud applause.) There were many little things each man would have to remember from the day he left the Colony until he came back, and one was that he would be a soldier pure and simple. As a soldier, then, it was imperative that he should at all times behave as one—obey orders and observe discipline in everything. The contingent was going home under two very able and popular officers (prolonged applause) and Major Chapman would have as his staff officer

Captain James, of the 1st Chinese Regiment. Referring to the arrangements that had been made in connection with the journey, Major Pritchard said the money available for the purpose had been expended to the best advantage, and he thought everyone would be very comfortable. Concluding, he said he should like to read in the papers that the colonial troops were the best part of the whole show, and that the Hongkong contingent was the best of all. "Then I can pat myself on the back and say, 'These are my men.'" (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically responded to with musical honours, after which Major CHAPMAN replied on behalf of the contingent and expressed thanks for the exceedingly hearty way in which it had been received. After re-echoing the words of counsel spoken by Major Pritchard, he said that on Friday he had seen Mr. Brown, the agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and from what that gentleman said it was apparent that the Company meant to make the trip a most comfortable one, in fact, a red-letter undertaking. (Applause.) Accommodation was being provided much superior to that usually given to troops, and the quarters of the contingent on board the steamer were cool and airy—ten or fifteen degrees cooler than in the captain's cabin. For the voyage comfortable bunks had been erected, and on the train each man would have a complete section to himself, so that there could be no crowding. That, he might tell the members of the contingent, would be provided without any expense to them, although at first there was a possibility of their being required to pay so much. (Loud applause.) Mr. Brown, in addition, had written on ahead asking that special arrangements be made for the welfare of the contingent. (Renewed applause.) After detailing articles of kit necessary for the journey and advising each man not to forget in the excitement of getting ready to take everything that would be required, Major Chapman concluded: "I have nothing to say now except to thank you once more for the very hearty send-off you have given us, and I trust that when we come back we shall meet with the knowledge that we have done our duty not only to the Corps but to the Colony. (Applause.)

In proposing the health of Major Pritchard, Major CHAPMAN said that the appointment of the former to be Commandant of the Corps in succession to Sir John Carrington was the most popular one that could have been made. (Hear, hear.)

The toast having been honoured most enthusiastically, Major PRITCHARD, who on rising was received with prolonged applause, said in reply that when at Singapore he knew the appointment was to be offered him, but the question was whether he should accept it, as the position was a very difficult one to fill, especially for a young man who had only been a captain for two years. He hesitated for a time before definitely accepting the offer to fill the post left vacant by the retirement of Sir John Carrington, who was deservedly the most popular man in the Colony and showed his wonderful abilities not only in his position as Commandant of the Volunteer Corps, but in every position he held in the Colony. (Applause.) When Sir John resigned, Major Pritchard said he was asked what he thought about it, and he declared that the best thing for the Corps was to get as Commandant a civilian in a high position such as Sir John's. Unfortunately no one came forward, and he was then asked if he thought it would be a good thing to have a soldier commandant. He had no idea then that he was to be offered the appointment, and he replied in the affirmative. Following that came his own appointment as Commandant of the Corps. (Applause.) As its Adjutant, continued Major Pritchard, he had had an extremely good time, and was responsible for nothing. Now he was Commandant, with all the responsibilities of the office, and whilst he remained with it he hoped the Corps would increase in strength and in value. (Applause.) He had always taken an interest in the Corps, and naturally that interest was intensified now. It was possible that should the occasion arise they would be asked to do all sorts of things and probably be turned into Garrison artillerymen, and in the latter event he hoped that his training would enable him to be of some use. In concluding, Major Pritchard, referring again o Sir John Carrington, said he was more sorry at leaving the Corps than leaving the Colony, for in Volunteer work he took the keenest possible interest. It was possible that the contingent would be visited at Alexandra Park by Sir John, whose health Major Pritchard then proposed.

The toast was received with acclamation and the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," and the gathering soon after dispersed to the strains of the National Anthem.

THE CONTINGENT'S DEPARTURE.

The 14th inst. marked a red-letter day in the history not only of the Colony but of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, for it saw the departure of a contingent from the regiment specially selected by the Executive Council of the Colony to represent this Far Eastern portion of the Empire at the Coronation of His Majesty the King. The entire contingent which left by the *Empress of Japan* on Wednesday numbered 83—42 Volunteers, 14 men of the Hongkong Regiment, 8 of the H.K.S. B.R.A., 13 of the 1st Chinese (Weihaiwei) Regiment, and 6 of the Submarine Miners (Chinese). With the exception of the Volunteers, all the troops were on board the steamer at an early hour in the morning, and thus were disappointed many people who assembled later on and who were hopeful that the contingent in its entirety would be marched down to one of the piers on the Praya for embarkation. The Volunteers paraded at Headquarters at nine o'clock, and presented a very smart, soldier-like appearance as they started for Murray Pier, headed by the band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. At the latter place they fell out in order to say *au revoir* to those friends who were unable to go on board the *Empress* boat, and when the leave-takings were over the men took their places on the launch waiting for them. Just before she moved away the crowd on the pier gave three cheers for the contingent, which, led by Major Chapman, replied with three more and a "tiger." Then, to the tune of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," the little vessel steamed away to where the great white liner lay at her moorings. Every man's baggage had already been shipped and the lighter luggage required on the voyage placed on the bunk allocated to him, so that when the men stepped on board and went down to their quarters there was no confusion as to where to find their belongings. These quarters are in the after part of the ship, separated from and much superior to the accommodation provided forward for the Indian and Chinese troops.

At eleven o'clock H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, accompanied by the officers of his staff, arrived to inspect the contingent, which was drawn up in single rank on the promenade deck on the port side. After the inspection, an entirely satisfactory one in every way, His Excellency addressed a few words to each unit, his remarks, in the case of the Indians and Chinese, being interpreted by the officers in command of them.

To the Weihaiwei Regiment he said that they were the first English-drilled troops ever sent to London from China, and he hoped they realised the great honour that had been conferred upon them in their selection to be present at the Coronation of their King. After referring to the valuable services the regiment had rendered in the recent troubles in the North, Major-General Gascoigne commented upon the exceedingly smart appearance of the detachment, and said that though in London they would meet some of the finest troops in the world, he had no doubt they would acquit themselves in such a manner as would reflect credit not only on themselves and their instructors but on that part of the Empire of which they were the representatives. A hope that they would enjoy their visit to England concluded the remarks.

His Excellency, in addressing the Indian detachment, said it was a very great honour to go home to see the Coronation, and he was glad indeed that that honour had fallen upon them. He had been told to send home, if he could, men who had served in North China, and he understood that every one of the detachment had done so. In London, there was no doubt, people would look upon and admire them, big, fine fellows as they were, and with a uniform not often seen at home. His Excellency then pointed out, as he had done in the case of the Weihaiwei Regiment, that in London they would meet some of the finest troops in the world, and he felt quite certain that the detachments before him would carry themselves in a way to reflect credit on Hongkong, that sent them out. He concluded by hoping they would have a thoroughly good time, and that when they returned he would hear the best possible reports of them.

After a few words to the Chinese sappers of the Royal Engineers, to whose services in the Hinterland two years ago he referred, and to whom he extended his wishes for an enjoyable trip, His Excellency, addressing the Volunteers, said—All ranks of the Hongkong Volunteers, it is a great honour and a great pleasure to me that under me a strong detachment of the Hongkong Volunteers should go to represent Hongkong at the Coronation. Since I have been in command here, I have tried, as you know, to do everything I can to help the Volunteers. When the Council unanimously decided to send you as representatives of Hongkong nothing afforded me greater pleasure, and I feel perfectly certain that it will have a lasting effect on the Regiment, as regards recruiting and as regards the zeal with which you keep up your work. I need not tell you that you will be the cynosure of all eyes. There will be a great number of people that will look at a regiment coming from the Far East. You will have to rub shoulders with the finest troops in the world—the Imperial troops, the Household troops of England; and I feel perfect confidence that you will carry yourselves in such a way as to reflect credit upon Hongkong that sends you out. I hope you will have a thoroughly good time while you are there, and I feel perfectly certain that when I welcome you back I shall hear the best possible reports of you. I have tried in every way I can to help you on. I have written to my friend, the General Officer Commanding the Home District, asking him as a personal friendship to myself to look after you and help you. I have also asked him to detail a senior non-commissioned officer from my old regiment, the Scots Guards, to be with you and therefore to help you on in every way possible. I need not tell you that I shall have plenty of people who will tell me all about you afterwards, and therefore I am perfectly certain I shall hear the best possible reports of you. I wish you all luck and hope you will enjoy yourselves thoroughly. (Applause.)

Major-General Gascoigne afterwards inspected the respective quarters of the troops, and, when he had taken leave of the officers going home with the contingent, left in the Government launch *Victoria* for Hongkong. By this time most of the visitors had spoken the last words of farewell and taken their departure, and presently the steamer's bell warned those who still lingered that it was time to go. Soon after mid-day the *Empress* swung clear from her buoy, and commenced the voyage to which so many had been looking forward.

THE WEIHAIWEI REGIMENT.

Kipling's words, that "the British non-commissioned officer can make soldiers out of mud," have no better exemplification than in the 1st Chinese Regiment from Weihaiwei, for a smarter, better-drilled lot of men it would be hard, impossible almost, to find anywhere in the world. When the detachment that left by the *Empress of Japan* on Wednesday to be present at the Coronation arrived in the Colony, no more than a passing interest was manifested in the event, but once seen on parade it became apparent that the men comprising the detachment were not the ordinary lot public opinion deemed them to be; but on the contrary, that they were soldiers of whom the British Army might well be proud. Drilled as Guardsmen are at the "double," their every movement is characterised by an incredibly quick, clockwork-like regularity that came as a complete revelation to those who were privileged to witness them at work, and so complete was this feeling of surprise and pleasure that H. E. Major-General Gascoigne, who inspected the contingent on the 10th inst. expressed a wish to have a public exhibition on the new Parade Ground last Tuesday afternoon. Unfortunately, however, the

weather was of the most unfavourable description, and the parade had to be cancelled, so that the public were robbed of one of the finest spectacles it could have been their pleasure to see. However, those residents in the Colony who went on board the *Empress of Japan* on the 14th inst. were able to form a slight conception of what the Weihaiwei Regiment can do in the matter of drill from the detachment's appearance and actions as it formed up preparatory to the inspection by Major-General Gascoigne, and on every side expressions of admiration were heard, as genuine as they were spontaneous.

The man to whom a great share of the credit for this high state of efficiency is due is Colour-Sergeant Purdon, one of the instructors of the regiment, who has been with it for only four years, but who, in that short time, has helped to bring it up to such perfection that he is now prepared to match his men against any troops in the world, both in fighting and in drilling. He speaks, reads, and writes Chinese, and is consequently as much at home with his Chinese soldiers as he formerly was with his comrades in his old regiment, the Coldstream Guards.

In a short interview one of our representatives had with Colour-Sergeant Purdon, he was able to glean a few facts in connection with the 1st Chinese Regiment that should interest our readers. The regiment now consists of 1,300 men, and is so popular in Weihaiwei that the supply of recruits far exceeds the demand; indeed, for the past eight months it has been found unnecessary to enlist a single recruit. Their physique is good, and in one company of 30 men not one is under 5ft. 8in. The men take to their drill readily, and once the civilian rawness has worn off they evince a liking for their work and take a pride in attaining as rapidly as possible the high standard of excellence that their instructors set for them. Three hundred men of the regiment took part in suppressing the Boxer troubles last year, and out of that number 2 officers and 23 men were killed and 3 officers and 40 men wounded—a high percentage truly. All of the thirteen men comprising the Coronation contingent participated in the fighting at Peking when the Legations were relieved, and as they also were present at the taking of Tientsin they are thus entitled to a couple of bars with their medal for the campaign. At Tientsin, Colour-Sergeant Purdon and four men were wounded, and it is the former's constant regret that he was in consequence prevented from being present at the relief of the Legations in Peking. However, at Tientsin it was his good fortune to perform a deed for which he is to be presented with the distinguished conduct medal. Of his bravery Colour-Sergeant Purdon spoke with the greatest modesty and unconcern. "What did you do to gain the medal?" he was asked. "Oh, nothing much—only carried a wounded man back under fire, and refused to retire when I was ordered." But that "nothing much" saved a man's life and gained for his gallant preserver the decoration that, next to the Victoria Cross, is most coveted of the soldier. As Major-General Gascoigne said on the 14th inst., the Weihaiwei Regiment is the first to send to England a detachment of English-drilled Chinese troops, and their appearance will, we feel certain, create as favourable an impression in London as it has here.

A Seoul telegram of the 28th ult. to the *Asahi* states that Yu Sin-Chun, brother of Yu Ki-Chung (the latter of whom is regarded as a pro-Japanese Corean), and four other men have been suddenly arrested. It is believed many members of the late Independent Club will be arrested, and great panic prevails. A later telegram announces that sixteen arrests have been made since last advices. The cause of the *coup d'état* is unknown, but the rumour is circulated that a scheme was on foot among the Coreans to revive the Independent Club. It is believed that this rumour was taken advantage of by the officials in the Imperial Court and the Government to represent to the Throne that the members of the former Independent Club had some seditious intentions and hoped to act against the Government with the assistance of the Corean refugees now in Japan.

THE DEPARTURE OF SIR THOMAS JACKSON.

CHINESE COMMUNITY'S BANQUET.

On the occasion of his final departure from the Colony, Sir Thomas Jackson, Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was entertained to a banquet on the 10th inst. in the City Hall by the Chinese community of Hongkong. The company numbered over 150. Mr. Ho Tung presided, and among others present besides the guest of the evening were His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Hon. A. M. Thomson, Hon. A. G. Wise, Hon. R. M. Rumsey, Hon. W Chatham, Hon. A. W. Brewin, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. C. S. Sharp, Captain the Hon. H. W. Trefusis, A.D.C., Messrs. N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, C. W. Dickson, D. R. Law, H. W. Slade, E. A. Hewett, V. A. C. Hawkins, A. Haupt, E. Goetz, E. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, G. H. Medhurst, H. Schubart, D. M. Moses, Fung Wa Chun, Lau Wai Chuen, Ho Fook, Leung Shin Kong, Tam Tsz Kong, Ip Oi Shan, Leung Pui Chi, Kwok Siu Lan, Un Lai Chuen, Tong Lai Chuen, Yung Yik Ting, Wong Kam Fuk, Ho Kom Tong, Lo Cheung Shiu, Leung Yan Po, Chan He Wan, Chau Siu Ki, Wei Long Shan, Lau Tsin Ting, Wong Ki Sam, Wei Lai Yu, Chan Kang Yu, Man Kwong Tin, Kau Tin Hing, Chau Yung Cheong, Chow Kum Wing, Ma Fat Ting, Kwok Yik Yu, Tang Chi Ngong, and Chan Pan Po. The entrance to the hall and the staircase were beautifully decorated with Chinese lanterns and evergreens. After an excellent dinner, purveyed by Mr. W. M. Farmer, of Messrs. Madar & Farmer, the toast-list was entered upon.

The toast of "His Majesty the King" and "Her Majesty the Queen and the other members of the Royal Family" were given from the Chair and duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the toast of the evening. He said—Your Excellency, Sir Thomas Jackson and gentlemen, I will not attempt to disguise the pleasure and the great honour I feel in occupying the chair to-night, and as Chairman of this representative assembly to be called upon to propose the toast of the evening to our illustrious guest, Sir Thomas Jackson. (Applause.) Gentlemen, ours is essentially a fleeting community. Men come and men go. And we have come to regard the arrivals and departures as matters of course with stolid indifference. But there are acquaintanceships, which once formed do not take long to deepen into friendship, and it is these friends that we would vainly wish might stay with us for ever. But it cannot be. In the order of things our best friends take their departure from us, and the least we could do is to meet previous to the final leave-taking to wish God-speed to the departing friend. (Applause.) We are met here to-night in obedience to one of those calls of duty devolving upon us as representing the Chinese commercial and tradal interests of Hongkong to do honour to Sir Thomas Jackson, to whom we all owe so much. I make no apology in asking you to bear with me while I express my small meed of praise and genuine admiration of a gentleman whose very name has become a household word in Hongkong. (Applause.) To trace the history of the great institution from whose Chief Managership you now retire is but to trace your own history as you have been known to us and to the world at large for the past 26 years. When you, sir, arrived in Hongkong in the autumn of 1864 to join the Agra and Masterman's Bank, many of us were not yet out of our teens: and as for myself I just then emerged from the period of babyhood. We could not then possibly have had any conception of the great personage that was to be so intimately known to us in after years. (Applause.) One year after your arrival the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was formed and in the following year you joined it, becoming successively Accountant at Shanghai, and Manager at Hankow and Yokohama before returning to the Head Office as Sub-Manager in 1870. The two re-appointments to Yokohama and a short leave you had in 1874 with an acting Managership of the London Office occupied the time before you became confirmed in the post of Chief Manager in 1876. No one who is even superficially acquainted with the history of Hongkong can ignore the fact that you took over this very responsible office at a period of the greatest doubt and uncertainty attending the commercial affairs of the young Colony. Although blame was sought to be saddled on the executive on account of the legislative measures which it enacted for the depressing state of affairs, it cannot be denied that far more potent factors throughout the East were contributing to bring commercial disaster upon Hongkong. The vicissitudes of banking, like all other trades, became apparent in the reports and balance sheets issued by our local bank at this time. The carping criticisms which its detractors levelled at it were unmeasured and unrestrained. Yours, however, was not the spirit to be daunted by adversity, but rather the contrary. At a trying time you entered upon your duties with zeal, and brought to bear upon them the ability and determination not only to maintain the position and reputation of your charge, but to eclipse its success of the past. How far your end was accomplished will best be seen in the speech of the Honourable F. D. Sassoon, who spoke as Chairman of the Bank at its half-yearly meeting in February 1886—ten year after your assumption of the Chief Managership. He said he would take the opportunity of recording the immense services you rendered to the Bank by your unremitting energy and ability. (Applause.) So long ago as then the Bank, with the bulk of its earning power remaining in China, had made vast strides and attained to an important position. When you first took charge of the Bank at the beginning of 1876, it had a reserve fund of only $100,000. To-day it boasts of 14¼ millions (applause) or 4¼ millions in excess of its capital, with incomparable property here and at the branches held in premises and dead stocks. The increase in deposits shows the continuance of public confidence in the Bank both in Europe and Asia. I will repeat what a former Chairman of the Bank has said:—"I doubt if the most sanguine of the good men who were its promoters, expected it to grow to the extent it has." (Applause.) As a shareholder I must say, and I think I echo the feelings of others, that I am not sorry you have been instrumental in working such a wondrous expansion. (Laughter.) No other expression adequately defines its development. During the period of its existence the Bank has more than fulfilled its purpose. The Savings Bank, which commenced business in May, 1884, under your auspices, has also been proved to be useful to the class for whom it was intended. Sir, recognition of your eminent and enduring services has been made by Her late Majesty the Queen (applause) and, after that, it is at best but poor testimony we can bear to your worth. With a full consciousness of the poor tribute we can give you I feel I cannot do better than to recall the lines recorded in public print concerning you; it is thus ineffaceably consigned to posterity by the art preservative of all arts that your energy has been exhaustless, your tact and temper beyond praise. (Applause.) In the midst of great pressure both of worry and responsibility, you have always retained your cheerfulness, your urbanity. Few men have won greater popularity in Hongkong; none have been better entitled to it. Whether as the genial Manager of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, the outspoken member of the Legislative Council, or the munificent and public-spirited supporter of our local institutions, we shall most acutely miss you when you leave us. We wish you many long years of life to continue with vigour unimpaired the career of usefulness to your fellow-men. (Applause.) Now, gentlemen, let us drink a bumper to Sir Thomas Jackson.

The toast was pledged with enthusiasm.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON who was warmly welcomed, said in reply—Your Excellency, Mr. Ho Tung and gentlemen, first of all I have to thank your Excellency for being present. I take it as a great honour, and I have also to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the very kindly way in which you proposed my health and have spoken of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The prosperity of the Bank is very dear to us all, and it is only right and proper that it should have received appreciation at your hands. In saying

so much, sir, I think it would be unjust, ungenerous and unkind if I were to take the praise of all the success that has followed the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to myself. It has not been the case, sir. I have been associated in management with very eminent men who have borne their full share of the burden. I call to mind a drawing in *Punch* some years ago, where an Irish labourer with a hod of bricks on his shoulder was asked by a chum, "What sort of a job have you got, Pat?" The latter replied, "Faith, a very good one; I get 3/- a day, and that chap up there (pointing to a bricklayer some 40 feet up) does all the work." (Laughter.) Well, sir, one would have thought that poor Pat also was doing his share of the work, and if there had been only one bricklayer it would have taken a precious long time to erect the stately edifice we are in the habit of admiring next door. It is not the work of one. It is the work of many. Therefore honours must be divided. You have alluded, sir, to the progress of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. To the particulars you have given about the rise of the Bank, I may be permitted to add a few details. In the early sixties there was a good deal of speculation and company-promoting going on in Bombay, and I think I am right in saying that a prospectus was actually issued of a proposed Bank of China. The subsequent serious crisis in Bombay, culminating in the failure of the Bach Bay Reclamation Scheme, put an end to all new ventures. A number of influential men here about the same time formed the idea of starting a local Bank, prompted no doubt by the Bombay prospectus. After much delay a prospectus appeared of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Co. Ld. They foresaw the advantages to the Colony of having a strong local bank. They had many and excellent reasons for its formation which I need not allude to at this distance of time. The prime movers were Mr. Thos. Sutherland, director on the P. & O. and Mr. E. H. Pollard, K.C., both of whom I am glad to say are very much to the fore, and are now occupying prominent positions in London. Sir, they were far-seeing men, and their names deserve to be held in grateful remembrance not only by the present, but by all future generations of Hongkongites. The Bank had various vicissitudes. For some time after the Bank was started—it was then called the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Co., Ld.—it fell upon evil days. It had to face all the infantile troubles that attend youth. But I think I must admit that it was rather a wayward youth and that it got into more trouble than ordinary children would have got into. That may be as it may, but suffice it to say that it survived those infantile complaints and got into vigorous youth, and now, sir, we see it in the prime of manhood. (Applause.) At that time it was very much doubted by a good many people here that there was not a field in Hongkong for a local bank; that in fact there was no room for it, and many were the shakings of heads attending the birth of this infant. However, sir, there was ever a sufficient number of people here who then appreciated the benefits that would ultimately arise from a local bank which would have its funds available for local purposes instead of being compelled to withdraw them every time the funds were wanted elsewhere. We had to look about then for a field for the operations of the Bank, Fortunately many people rallied to our Bank and many accounts were opened. I wish to take this opportunity of saying, sir, that among those who rallied round the Bank, the Chinese bankers and Chinese merchants of Hongkong were conspicuous. (Applause.) They had no reason to regret the decision they then came to. because I think I am not saying too much when I assert the fact that many a crisis, many a little storm and inconvenience has been stayed by the strong resources of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. (Applause.) If there are any Naval guests here to-night, I might compare the Bank to "the battle-fleet of finance." (Applause.) You said, sir, that the Bank had fulfilled it's mission. That it certainly has, and that it very nobly has. (Applause.) In referring to myself, you were good enough to allude to the little services I have been able to perform in the Colony in a public sort of way. Well, sir, I can only say that considering the many advantages I had I have done very little. ("No, no.") Well, be that as it may, I think that is my opinion. However, what I did do was cheerfully done. (Hear, hear.) I would also like to say that in all the philanthropic, in all the public movements, that were set on foot and in which I had a considerable hand, acting as beggar-in-chief, the Chinese community responded nobly to every call that was made upon them. (Applause.) In reviewing my long career, which you, sir have so nicely alluded to, I would wish to say that I could sum up the whole 26 years of the management in Hongkong with one word, and that word is "Thankfulness." Speaking again of the Chinese community, with whom the Bank has had more to do than with any other, Ido not wish to make use of the old hackneyed expression, however right and proper, which took its rise in the days of the East India Company in China, that "a Chinese merchant's word is as good as his bond"; but following the example of Lord Rosebery I will find a new expression. I maintain that a Chinaman's word is better than his bond. (Applause.) A good many of our clients do not know much about law and they may even think there is a bit of a trick about every scrap of document with a stamp upon it; but the good old words "putter book" constitute not only an equitable agreement but a debt of honour, which only stern necessity would prevent from being thoroughly carried out. (Applause.) Mr. Chairman, I shall conclude my remarks by wishing the Chinese community of Hongkong the merchants, bankers, and everybody connected with it, all prosperity. If we had to adopt a new motto for Hongkong in addition to what is given to us by the Royal Arms, I would say, "Go ahead, Hongkong." (Applause.)

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN said—Mr. Ho Tung, Your Excellency and gentlemen, The most agreeable task of proposing the health of our guests has been assigned me, and I undertake it with the greatest pleasure though not without diffidence. We feel highly honoured by the presence of so many distinguished guests, and we are deeply indebted to them for their kind support and assistance in our endeavour to entertain in a befitting manner our much respected friend, Sir Thomas Jackson (applause) whose pending departure will be universally regretted by all sections of the community. It is not often that we are afforded the privilege and pleasure of entertaining such a goodly company of visitors, and I hope we may be permitted on many future occasions to have the same privilege and pleasure. I wish to couple with this toast the name of our Acting Governor, His Excellency Major-General Gascoigne, who has so kindly honoured us with his distinguished company this evening. (Applause.) His Excellency is no stranger to us. He has been with us several years, and is well liked and highly respected by us. His distinguished military services in the Orient have gained him the entire approbation of his King and country, and his public services to this Colony have won him the admiration and esteem of the whole community. To all, his constant courtesy and urbanity, his unvarying kindness and sympathy are well known. All who have had the good fortune of serving under him or coming into contact with him are pleased to acknowledge that as a Commanding Officer or as a friend, they can wish for no better. (Applause.) His Excellency's presence among us to-night shows that notwithstanding the exalted position he occupies, he is eminently sociable and kindly; and we are exceedingly obliged to him for the pleasure as well as honour he has conferred upon us by his presence. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I will now ask you to join me in drinking the health of "Our Guests," coupled with the name of H.E. Sir William Gascoigne.

The toast was cordially honoured.

His Excellency Major-General Gascoigne, in acknowledging the toast, said—Mr. Chairman and gentlmen It is my high honour to rise as the senior representative of the guests assembled here to night. First of all, let me thank the proposer of the toast for the kind manner in which he has coupled my name with that toast; and I beg to thank you all, gentlemen, with my whole heart for the kind manner in which you accepted that coupling. Believe me, that I have had such a very happy time since I have been in Hongkong, and I have met with such kindness, such courtesy, and and such consideration, that I should be indeed ungrateful if I did not endeavour to repay that kindness to the utmost of my ability. Believe me, gentlemen, that I feel a very high honour in endeavouring to serve you, and I only wish that my ability to serve you was equal to my desire. (Applause.) Sufficient for myself. Now, gentlemen, as senior representative of the guests assembled here to-night, I feel a perfect confidence that I voice the entire opinion of all these guests when I say what a great pride and privilege and pleasure it was to us to be asked to take part on the occasion of paying honour to Sir Thomas Jackson. (Applause) Sir Thomas Jackson has been a very kind friend to me during my stay in Hongkong. He has done me many acts of personal kindness, but I think it would be almost an impertinence of me, when my acquaintance with Sir Thomas Jackson is so slight compared with that of nearly everybody here assembled to-night, if I were to descant further on his merits. Therefore it will suffice for me to say that we the assembled guests here to-night were very grateful indeed for the opportunity of taking part on the occasion of paying honour to a man whose name will long be remembered in Hongkong (applause) whose private character and the position he has built up for himself and for the Bank of which he has been Chief Manager will long be remembered not only in Hongkong but throughout the whole of China. (Applause.)

Mr. LEUNG SHIU KONG, in proposing the toast of "The Prosperity of Hongkong," said:—Your Excellency, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen. The third toast of this evening has fallen upon me. Why I have been selected to perform this delicate duty I could not say unless it was with the idea of testing my abilities as a public speaker. Now, gentlemen, as I have never yet spoken in public, and this, I can assure you, is my maiden speech, I must therefore crave your indulgence for any slips I may make. I shall now proceed to the point. I have been asked to propose this toast for the prosperity of the Colony. Well, with our water famine at present, I hardly know how to proceed. (Laughter and applause.) The Colony is certainly not prospering in that direction. (Laughter.) It is perhaps our local trade to which I am to refer. I am handicapped even there. For is the exchange not dropping fast and are we not gloomily looking forward to an eighteen-penny dollar? (Laughter.) I blame all this on our departing guest. (Laughter and applause.) He has taken away our "good joss" from us. It is a curious coincidence, nevertheless it is a fact, for was it not during the temporary absence of our much loved Sir Thomas that the Colony went through the crisis of commercial depression and he had to be summoned back to his post to drive the evil spirits from us? (Laughter and applause.) But no one can be expected to serve us for ever, and we are now to have as the representative of the oldest bank in the Colony the Honourable Thomas Whitehead, who will worthily fill his place. (Applause.) Mr. Whitehead, gentlemen, has the confidence of all classes of the community (applause.) and we trust the good joss that always favoured Sir Thomas will favour the future Sir Thomas (applause) and make him Sir Thomas Whitehead, whose health I beg to couple with this toast.

The toast was pledged with enthusiasm.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—Mr. Chairman, your Excellency and gentlemen, The institution it has been my endeavour since 1883 to represent is the oldest established Bank in the Colony, having started here some four and forty years ago. No doubt owing to this fact my name has been associated with the toast so ably proposed by our enlightened fellow citizen, Mr. Leung Shiu Kong, whose worthy and respected father was a pioneer and a sturdy pillar of progress in Hongkong's early days. The late Leung On was a generous supporter of every work having in view the well-being of his fellow men and his name will long be held in high esteem. (Applause.) When commerce and local industries flourish, the Banks not unnaturally share in the general prosperity. Through the wise, exceptionally able and generous management of the principal guest of this evening,

our great local Banking Institution has in a pre-eminent degree been instrumental in developing the trade and fostering the prosperity of the port. (Applause.) Sir Thomas Jackson may not actually have brought the Hongkong Banking Corporation into existence but soon after its birth he became its Chief Manager. Since 1876 he nursed his bantling with unceasing care and assiduous attention. Through his continuous energy, perseverance, untiring industry and conspicuous tact he has seen his child grow in health, in strength and in wealth, and develop into the most robust manhood. (Applause.) Some little time ago there was a proposal to amalgamate the three Presidency Banks in India with a view to giving the Indian Empire increased banking facilities, but the scheme has been shelved for the present. The resources of our local Bank I am credibly informed exceed the aggregate resources of the three Indian Presidency Banks. (Hear, hear.) Sir Thomas Jackson bequeaths to his successor a rare and a rich inheritance. We may feel quite sure Mr. Smith will follow in the footsteps of his predecessor with advantage to himself, and with benefit to all concerned. (Applause.) Hongkong's industries are prospering and earning good dividends, though no doubt they have suffered in some extent from the inconveniences of our inadequate water supply. This evil however can be averted in the future by the timely expenditure of the necessary money which the Colony can very well afford. (Hear, hear.) One other difficulty now to contend against is is our gigantic inheritance of insanitation but the same must be grappled with. The City must be put into a thoroughly sanitary condition (hear, hear) and it is imperative that light as well as air should be let into all human habitations irrespective of the cost though the same may run into millions of dollars. The Sanitary Board is not to blame for the insanitary condition of the town. The system of Crown Colony Government is alone responsible. The unstable and uncertain measure of value in which trade here is carried on entails great disadvantages on merchants as well as on banks. With the exception of China almost every other country in the world has legislated against silver and in favour of gold. In consequence the gold price of the dollar recently fell to under 1/8 or to the lowest point on record. China's foreign indebtedness has all been contracted in gold while import and export duties and other revenue continue to be collected in silver. Every decline in the gold price of silver increases China's foreign indebtedness and is not attended by any compensating advantage. Her last indemnity of 450 million taels was arranged in May, 1901, on a gold basis, but since then solely owing to the fall in the gold price of silver the said indemnity now stands increased to about 550 million taels, an increase of not less than 100 million taels in twelve months. If after his well-earned holiday, Sir Thomas Jackson will seriously consider and help towards a solution of the great currency problem he will place China and his numerous friends in the Far East under further obligation and add to the many important services he has already rendered to commerce. (Applause.) The financial difficulties ahead of the Chinese Government are by no means insurmountable. In the honest collection and administration of China's revenue lies the country's financial salvation. The abolition of all internal taxation trade in China is practicable and can be made effective as has been demonstrated for many years in the case of *lekin* on opium. Effective fiscal reform would ensure an enormous expansion in China's exports and imports, and everything that is possible should now be done to bring this about. With the hearty co-operation of our enterprising and industrious Chinese and other friends, continued local progress is assured, and I firmly believe that the prosperity of Hongkong is still in its infancy. (Applause.)

This concluded the toast-list.

Thereafter, Mr. J. H. Moir, the bandmaster of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers' band, which played selections during the dinner, was called in and had his health proposed by the Chairman. General Gascoigne also congratulated Mr. Moir upon the excellence of the band's performance.

The company dispersed to the strains of "God Save the King."

ADDRESS FROM CHINESE COMMUNITY.

Sir Thomas Jackson was presented with an illuminated address from the Chinese commercial community of Hongkong in the City (St. Andrew's) Hall on the 13th inst. Mr. Ho Tung presided, and among those present besides Sir Thomas Jackson were Messrs. Lau Wai Chun, Ho Fook, Leung Pui Chi, Tam Tsz Kong, Leung Shiu Kong, Liao Tsz Shan, Yung Yik Ting, Wong Ki Sam, Lau Chin Ting, Wong Kam Fuk, Ho Kom Tong, Lo Cheung Shiu, Wan Kwong Tin, Tong Lai Chuen, Ip Shun Kam, Kau Tin Hing, Ma Fat Ting, Lau Wan Kai, Leung Yan Po, Chan Oi Ting, Wong Leung Him, and Fung Shu Tong.

Mr. HO TUNG in his opening remarks said:—Sir Thomas Jackson and gentlemen, the Chinese merchants and traders of Hongkong have met here to-day in a body formally to say good-bye to you on your retirement from the field of your labours in the Far East. They have done me the honour of electing me as their spokesman on this occasion. I do not propose to detain you for many seconds before proceeding to read the address which has been prepared as the result of a spontaneous desire on the part of its signatories to record in a public manner the high opinion which one and all have formed of you after so many years of personal acquaintance with your urbanity, kindness of heart, and remarkable genius. (Applause.) These are qualities the possession of any one of which suffices to raise a person in the estimation of his fellow-men, but when they are all combined in one and that one is you, sir, wielding so extensive a power for good or evil as the leader of the financial world in the Far East, it is impossible for those who have benefitted most by that genius not to recognise it in some fitting manner. (Applause.) In our humble opinion the best means lying within our reach is that of a public address, which we trust you will accept as a genuine expression of the feelings we all entertain for you. (Applause.) With your permission, I will now read the address. Mr. Ho Tung proceeded to read the address which was in the following terms:—

TO SIR THOMAS JACKSON, CHIEF MANAGER OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, ETC., ETC., ETC.

Sir,—The undersigned members of the Chinese Commercial Community of Hongkong desire, however inadequately, to pay to you before your departure from Hongkong, on retiring from the Chief Managership of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, our humble tribute of admiration for your high moral character, and to express the very high appreciation in which you have been held by us and the sense of loss which we shall feel when you have left these shores.

The Bank, over whose destinies you ruled with such conspicuous ability for the past twenty-six years, enjoys an enormous and ever increasing clientèle, and it may be asserted without fear of contradiction that of the very extensive business which it controls in the farther East by far the largest proportion is that with China and the Chinese. As belonging to that section of the Corporation's constituents, we feel as of greater worth the value of the testimony which we have the honour to bear to the most consummate tact and ability which have ever been consistently exercised by you in the management of this great institution's affairs.

The colossal success which the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank can now boast of is the more remarkable when a retrospective view is taken into the pages of History.

When you first joined the institution in August 1866, the Colony was just then beset by a great commercial depression that made its influence felt in almost all the principal branches of business; the stagnation was threatened by a panic in the following year with the closing of certain leading mercantile firms, and was further prolonged throughout the years 1868 and 1869. This period of decline in the commercial prosperity of the Colony, in itself of a serious character, was but the precursor of worse days to come for the Bank, when errors and adversity combined to work the reduction of its Reserve fund to one hundred thousand dollars and the cessation of dividends for one year.

It was at this critical juncture that you, Sir, were transferred to the helm of affairs as the Acting Chief Manager, only to be confirmed in the substantive appointment five months after.

In the face of these difficulties, and encumbered as the Bank then was with bad estates, by dint of inherent energy, unceasing care, and indomitable perseverance, the Bank was successfully steered through one of the most acute and prolonged financial crises ever known, until, from a depth of adversity and disaster, it has been lifted to its present magnificent position of prosperity. The Bank emerged triumphant from a gloom which enveloped it, to a splendour ranking it with the leading banks of the world!

The era of its revival was coincident with your appointment to the supreme command and it is impossible not to see that the increased prosperity which each half-year (with but few exceptions, owing to the vicissitudes of Fortune) has recorded, was most closely identified with the name of its Chief Manager.

It is not, however, in financial matters alone that your influence for good has been exercised for the benefit of this Colony. In spite of the cares and anxieties inseparable from your onerous and responsible duties you have found time to serve the Colony on various public occasions, conspicuous amongst which are your honorary treasurerships of the Irish and Indian Famine Relief Funds, the Hongkong Jubilee, the Queen's Diamond, and Queen's Memorial Funds, and the Typhoon Relief Fund of 1900, the last by its spontaneous manifestation of sympathy evoking from the Chinese of Hongkong heartfelt gratitude. As member of the Colonial Retrenchment Committee, the Insanitary Properties Commission, and the Queen's Statue Committee, respectively, you devoted valued services no less to the public weal, and as member of the Legislative Council your wisdom was consulted in the framing of laws for the promotion of our good. In the furtherance of the interests of commerce of our world-renowned port also you take an important part by sharing with the leading gentlemen of the mercantile and shipping communities, their labours in the Chamber of Commerce. And, finally, in fostering the good works of all classes of charitable and religious institutions in Hongkong, without discrimination, your private munificence has long been recognised and, without doubt, will find living monuments amongst those who gratefully cherish the name and the memory of a universal benefactor.

The urbanity of your demeanour towards all who are brought into contact with you; the soundness of your judgment in counselling those who have approached you for advice; and the impartiality of your treatment of the Bank's clients have secured for you the respect of all classes alike. They are attributes that entitle you to the highest admiration and should serve as a standard for those who come after you to be guided by.

The limits of time do not permit us to dilate upon the unvarying kindness and courtesy exhibited by you towards us as a distinct class, and in confining ourselves to an expression of grateful thanks we beg to proffer you the accompanying token which we hope may be found acceptable as a link in the chain of recollection of the very cordial relations that ever existed between yourself and the Chinese merchants and traders of Hongkong.

In bidding you, Sir, "Good-bye," we fervently hope that your life may long be spared that you may enjoy in the home-land the fruits of your long years of honest labour in the East in company with your respected wife, Lady Jackson, and family, for whose health, happiness, and continued prosperity, coupled with your own, our good wishes accompany you wherever you go!

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

[Here follow signatures.]

Hongkong, 13th May, 1902.

Mr. TAM TSZ KONG afterwards read the address in Chinese.

Mr. HO TUNG then said—Sir Thomas Jackson, I hand you this address in its present form, as it has not been possible for us to get the embroidery work from Canton done in time before your departure. It seemed to us that, got up in true characteristic Chinese style, the address

might be a more interesting memento to you from the Chinese. (Applause.)

Sir THOMAS JACKSON, in accepting the address, said—Mr. Ho Tung and gentlemen, I accept this address at your hands with very great pleasure. It is a very grateful compliment to have such an excellent character given to me and so prettily bound. I have been a long time among you—longer, perhaps, than most people. At the same time I can assure you I never tire of our little Hongkong. (Applause.) This little spot has been very good to me and very good to my family, and we all can look back upon the days we spent here as days of great pleasure. (Applause.) In Hongkong we have a very happy blending of Eastern and Western enterprise. To these two, to that happy combination, do we owe to a great extent, indeed almost entirely, that Hongkong at the present moment is a commercial market known all over the world for its wealth, its munificence, and its magnificence. (Applause.) We, sir, in our small way, all have tried to cast a pebble or two upon its mountain of prosperity. If we look back to 1841, the year, by the way, in which I was born, when this Colony was annexed, a small fishing village, and when we see it now, what sort of an estimate can we form of what may take place during the next half century? Why, sir, I can hardly see any bounds that can be set upon the prosperity of this place, situated as it is on the borders of a great Empire, an Empire that will not remain still, an Empire that will advance, an Empire that yet may astonish the world. (Applause.) I can only in conclusion express my very great thanks to you all. I do not wish to detain you much longer, but indeed I could say a great deal, a great deal that might give you pleasure and would give myself pleasure, but I would just earnestly thank you one and all not only for the compliment you pay me now but for your unvarying kindness during the whole of my career in Hongkong. (Applause.)

On the call of Mr. HO TUNG, three cheers were given for Sir Thomas Jackson, and the company afterwards dispersed.

DEPARTURE ON THE "EMPRESS."

The departure from the Colony took place on the 13th inst. of Sir Thomas Jackson, late Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and of the Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, late Manager of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Both sailed on the *Empress of Japan*. At the Bank building and at the Jardine-Matheson premises there were volleys of Chinese crackers let off. A great many friends were at Blake Pier to say good-bye to Sir Thomas Jackson and Miss Jackson, and almost the entire Bank staff accompanied them to the steamer on the launch, the departure of which from the pier was the signal for an outburst of cheering. Mr. and Mrs. Bell Irving also got a splendid "send-off" from their many friends. As the *Empress* steamed out of the Harbour she was accompanied by a crowd of launches with syrens blowing and crackers exploding at the stern. The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., left by the *Prinzess Irene* for a six months' holiday in Europe. Mr. O. Chadwick, the sanitary expert, who has been assisting Professor Simpson in his plague investigations in the Colony and has now completed his survey, left by the *Empress of Japan*.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The year's plague cases now number 103, being an increase of 34 since the last appearance of the *Weekly Press*. For the week ended 10th instant the total number of cases of plague in the Colony was 29 with 19 deaths. Last week's figures are not yet to hand, nor is the number of deaths in the 103 cases made public yet. The total number of cholera cases during the week ended 10th curt. was 32 with 29 deaths, the cases comprising 2 Europeans, 26 Chinese and 4 other Asiatics. During the same period there were 4 fatal cases of smallpox, all Chinese. Three cases of diphtheria, none fatal, were also notified.

The Chinese Emperor has conferred upon Bishop Anzer of South Shantung the button of the first rank, in acknowledgment of his services rendered to maintain good relations between the Christians and others.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE FUND.

We have received the following letter for Publication:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 12th May.

SIR,—I have been requested by the Chairman (Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G.) of the Diamond Jubilee Committee to forward for publication a statement giving information as regards the work of the Executive Committee up to date. In doing so I may state that, although reports showing the financial and working positions of the Fund have been published in the local Press on two occasions, conveying information up to the date of the withdrawal by the Military Authorities (on certain conditions) of their objections to the proposed construction of the Jubilee Road, it may be useful to again touch on certain points dealt with in both the report of 1898 and that of 1900, in the present communication. Sir Thomas Jackson's (hon. treasurer) financial statement dated 28th February, 1898, showed that the receipts of the general account to that date had amounted to $199,741.94, made up as follows:—

	$ cts
Amount of Foreign Subscriptions	58 625 84
Do. Chinese do. ...	40,266.44
Received from Hongkong Government	98,892.28
Interest from Bank...	1,957.38
	$199,741 94

The expenditure up to 28th February, 1898, represented the cost of the celebrations, and amounted to $15,360.56, leaving a balance of $184.381.38 with which to proceed with the erection of the Jubilee Hospital and the construction of the Jubilee Road. During the year 28th February, 1898—28th February, 1899, the expenditure amount d to fifty cents, and the income (bank interest) to $11,318.96, bringing the available balance of general account at date to $195,699.84, which amount was divided equally between the Hospital and Road accounts. From 1st March, 1899, to 30th April, 1902, the receipts and expenditure have been as follows:—

JUBILEE HOSPITAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

	$ cts.
From General Account	97,849.92
Bank Interest	13,640.65
	$111,490.57

EXPENDITURE.

	$ cts.
Payments to architects, contractors and overseers	49,693.01
Cheque Book	0.50
Balance at Bank	...61,797.06
	$111,490.57

JUBILEE ROAD ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

	$ cts.
From General Account	97,849.92
Bank Interest	13,891.56
	$111,741.48

EXPENDITURE.

	$ cts.
Copying petition to Secretary of State	25.00
Hongkong Government, being refund cost of Mount Davis Section Survey...	509.44
Payments to architects, contractors and overseers	59,573.85
Cheque Book	0.50
Balance at Bank	51,632.69
	$111,741.48

The Hospital will be completed about December next and the additional expenditure from 1st May, 1902, till completion will be about $55,000.00 The first section of the Road, from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen, will be completed about December next, and the additional expenditure from 1st May, 1902, till completion will be about $42,000.00. On 1st May, 1902, the amount at credit of Road and Hospital accounts in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was in all $113,429.75, and this is subject to 5 per cent. interest on the daily balance. The delay in proceeding with the Hospital scheme was referred to in a report sent to the local Press on 28th May, 1900. The Committee experienced difficulty in the selection of a suitable site, and in obtaining a favourable tender for the work. Since the work has been in hand bad weather and water scarcity have both contributed to retard the progress of the work. The architects for the Hospital are Messrs. Palmer & Turner. The reasons of the delay in proceeding with the Road Scheme were sent to the local Press for publication on 28th May, 900. The chief delay occurred in consequence of military objections to the line of road from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen. After much correspondence, including a memorial to the Secretary of State on the subject, the military objections were withdrawn on the following conditions:—

(*a.*) The road to follow generally the 150 feet contour.

(*b.*) The revetments on the seaward side of the road to form a 3 feet parapet.

(*c*) The platforms over any nullahs the road may cross to be easily removeable, and

(*d.*) Protections to be formed at points suitable to serve as gun positions.

Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs, architects, etc., were asked to submit a report and plan of a trace, made to prove the practicability of a road following the 150ft. contour from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen. The result was satisfactory, and after certain alterations were made on the trace a plan was submitted for the approval of the Director of Public Works. The approval of the Director of Public Works was received in November, 1900, and on 22nd February, 1901, Messrs Denison, Ram and Gibbs forwarded finished plans and specification followed on by nine tenders along with their own recommendations on same for the consideration of the Executive Committee. The matter at once engaged the attention of the Committee and on the following day (28th March, 1901) I wrote on behalf of the Committee conveying their authority and instructions to Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs to proceed with the work. Satisfactory arrangements were made with the owners of lots through which the road runs on this section. The length of new road, including the loop at the Aberdeen end, will be about 4¾ miles. From Kennedy Town to Aberdeen the gradients (neglecting small deviations) will be approximately as follows:—

½	mile	rising gradient... ... 1 in 20
1¼	„	level.
½	„	rising gradient... ... 1 in 30
½	„	falling gradient ... 1 in 30
1¼	„	level.
½	„	falling gradient ... 1 in 20
1	„	level.

Being 4¾ miles of new road, and 1¼ miles old. The road will be 16 ft. wide clear driving space. When the funds at the disposal of the Committee have become exhausted the remaining portion of the road will be constructed by and at the expense of the Government. The following were the original members of the Jubilee (Executive) Committee:—Hon. C. P. Chater, C. M. G., Chairman; Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C. M. G., Hon. Secretary; Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. Treasurer; Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. R. M. Gray, Mr. W. Danby, and the late Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C.

The Hon. Secretaryship has been held in succession by Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Hon. W. Chatham and Mr. J. R. Crook, and on the latter's departure for Gibraltar I succeeded, on 19th July, 1900. Sir Thomas Jackson was succeeded as Hon. Treasurer (whilst retaining his seat as a member of the Committee) by Hon. J. Thurburn, who recently left for home. Hon. T. H. Whitehead was invited to succeed Mr. Thurburn on 2nd May, 1902, and accepted. Hon. R. M. Gray is now in England and Mr. W. Danby has resigned.—Yours, etc.,

DAVID WOOD,
Hon. Sec., Jubilee Committee.

The following are among ten Fleet engineers who have been promoted to the rank of Inspector of Machinery:—Mr. J. E. Chase, of the *Terrible*; and Mr. W. Sharp, of the *Ocean*.

THE RAINFALL.

The recent heavy rains which have fallen in the Colony have put a period to a most unsatisfactory state of things as regards the water supply, but much more will be required before the reservoirs contain sufficient for another year's supply. At 10 o'clock on Thursday morning last Tytam Reservoir contained 124.8 million gallons, or, roughly, one-third of its capacity. In the reservoirs at Wongneichong and Pokfulam there were at the same date 11.8 and 27.2 million gallons respectively. The total amount now in hand is therefore some 162 million gallons, as compared with only 9 million before the rains set in on Thursday of last week. It is reported that the feeders of the reservoirs are all running strongly, too, so that the condition of affairs is vastly more re-assuring than it was a week or so ago. Householders are now able to get three hours' service of water, the mains being open from 6 a.m. till 9 a.m. each day instead of from 6 till 7 each morning as was formerly the case. Meanwhile water is still obtainable from the tanks on the Praya; this service will be continued as long as the people take advantage of it in such numbers as to show that it is required. The details of the rainfall may be interesting. These are as follows, the days being calculated from 10 a.m. one day till 10 a.m. the next:—

May	8- 9	.62	inches.
„	9-10	.96	„
„	10-11	1.45	„
„	11-12	.01	„
„	12-13	1 14	„
„	13-14	5.78	„
„	14-15	2.37	„
	Total ...	12.33	„

PRICES IN THE CENTRAL MARKET.

For a considerable time past there has been good ground for complaint with regard to the way in which the Central Market business is conducted by the Chinese stall-holders. Complaints as to extortion and insolence on the part of these vendors of provisions have been frequent and bitter. Even the official price-list regularly published every week did not serve to prevent extortion. Now the situation has come to a pass which calls for the intervention of the authorities. For a whole fortnight there has been no issue of the revised price-list, owing to the fact that Inspector R. McEwen has refused, we understand, to append his signature to the sheet. It is to be hoped that his righteous refusal to do so will result in making the Sanitary Board look into the subject, with a view to rectification of the abuses complained of by the public and more stringent regulation of the stall-holders. Prices have of late shown a distinctly upward tendency in the case of almost every article offered for sale in the Market, and this in the absence of the factor which governs the price of commodities, namely an insufficient supply to meet the demand. Instead of there being an insufficient supply of any article of European consumption, which of course would receive due consideration from the Inspector in passing the price-list, the very opposite seems to be the case. The supply of food could hardly be more plentiful. Nor can the fall in the value of the dollar be urged as an excuse, for, so far as its purchasing power on the mainland is concerned it has undergone no depreciation, financiers agree. The rise in market-prices must simply be put down to an organised attempt on the part of the Chinese vendors to bleed the European even more freely than he is bled at present. Doubtless they considered the present time opportune for putting their plan into execution, the inspection of the Market having been transferred from Inspector J. T. Cotton to Inspector McEwen, and a transition period apparently lending itself to such a move. The result was that the price-list submitted to the Inspector for his approval a fortnight ago showed an increase all round of something like 20 per cent. To take beef, for example: the prices before were 14 to 15 cents; according to the proposed new scale of charges, these would have risen to 18 to 19 cents. Yet there is no scarcity of beef. And this is only one case out of many. It is to be hoped that the Inspector will be upheld in the position he has taken up and that some method will be devised of checking such unwarrantable imposition.

Another matter about which the public complain is the manner of weighing which is in vogue. There is only one stall which boasts European scales. In all the others the Chinese *ching* is used. Buyers when they order, say, a pound of meat can stand by and see it weighed and yet be defrauded in spite of themselves, for there are no available means at hand to check the accuracy of the weight; and in many cases, when weighed at home subsequently, purchases are found to be deficient in avoirdupois. The Market authorities should insist upon every stall-holder possessing European scales, in order that customers may see that just measure is given. It is an eloquent fact that the Chinese have not attempted to put up the price of mutton. The new Australian trade inaugurated by the Cold Storage Co. is responsible for that. Perhaps it is not out of place to throw out the hint that a cold chamber at the Market would be appreciated by the public, if the General Manager should see his way to have his Company represented among the stall-holders. Certainly, buyers would prefer to deal at such a stall, where mutton game and fowl could be supplied direct from the ice-chamber. The whole subject of the administration of the Market requires revision, and there should be no time lost in setting matters to right, for the mere fact of there being no authorised price-list issued is not preventing the Chinese from exacting the increased and exorbitant rates.

THE "KAIFONG" STOWAWAY CASE.

Before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Magistracy, on Thursday, the 15th inst., the charge against the No. 1 compradore and the members of the crew of the steamer *Kaifong* of aiding and abetting 134 coolies to obtain surreptitious passages to Cebu on 5th April was proceeded with. The four Filipino quartermasters and the Chinese cabin boy were discharged, there being nothing against them.

Four solicitors appeared in the case—Mr. G. C. C. Master for the owners of the *Kaifong*, (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire), Mr. J. Hastings for the No. 1 compradore, Mr. M. J. D. Stephens for three of the defendants, and Mr. E. J. Grist for ten. The remainder were unrepresented.

The captain, chief officer, chief engineer, and second engineer of the *Kaifong* gave evidence relative to the discovery of the stowaways on the voyage to Cebu, and were followed by two of the stowaways, who stated that they gave the No. 1 firemen $30 each to be taken on board the steamer.

Inspector Gauld said he was present when the defendants were arrested, and found on the third $138.

Another of the stowaways on the *Kaifong*, who like the others, is at present in gaol, was then examined. He said that at the Chinese boarding-house where he stayed for a few days after arriving in Hongkong from Fukien he met the 6th defendant (the No. 1 compradore), who asked him if he would like to go to Manila. Witness said he would, and the boarding-house keeper paid the 6th defendant $40 to get witness to that place. On the afternoon of 4th April he and five others were taken in a sampan to the *Kaifong* by the 6th defendant, and whilst his companions were led away to the fore part of the ship, witness was asked to go into the 6th defendant's cabin, where he remained until the ship sailed on the following day. The only two people he saw were the 17th and 39th defendants (the tallyman and the assistant cook), who supplied him with food. After the ship sailed witness was asked by these two defendants to go into the hatch, which was reached by a small hole in the 6th defendant's cabin covered over with flour-bags. When witness saw the dark hole he refused to go down, but the two defendants kicked him down and covered the hole again. A place had been made in the cargo for him to go into, and in it were about twenty other stowaways—so far as could be judged in the darkness. Witness and these other men took it in turns to go into the 6th defendant's room, where they sometimes received their "chow"; at other times it was brought to them in the hatch. When the ship got to Manila witness was arrested by an European.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hastings, witness said he told the Court that he got on the steamer by mistake because the 6th defendant told him to say so. In the room where he was taken by this defendant were twelve bunks, and eleven of them were occupied.

Mr. Hastings—Was this the compradore's room?

His Worship—No, it could not have been.

Mr. Hastings—We were led to believe that it was, but the compradore's room would not have eleven bunks in it.

Witness said he came here to look for employment, not purposely to go to Manila, and met the 6th defendant at the boarding-house where he was staying. With the 6th defendant he came to an agreement on 3rd April to pay $80 to be taken to Manila, and paid him $40 of that sum on the following day. The money was in silver, and witness brought it with him from Amoy in his belt. He handed it over to the 6th defendant at the boarding-house in the presence of the boarding-house keeper, who was to give the other $40, and actually did so, witness promising that if he got work in Manila he would remit the money. The 6th defendant and witness conversed through the interpretation of the boarding-house keeper, as each spoke a different dialect. The other five men with whom he went on board the steamer paid the same price—$40 each—but witness did not see the money paid.

Ng Siu Ting, the boarding-house keeper, said he was a dealer in Manila goods. He had some people staying with him just before the *Kaifong* sailed, the last witness amongst them: he left with a few friends, including the 6th defendant, to go to Cebu. The party of friends membered 19, and they were travelling by the *Kaifong*. The agreement between the compradore and his "friends" was that he was to get $80 from each if he succeeded in landing them in Cebu; if not, no money was to be paid. Each man paid the 6th defendant $40 through witness, who was to hand over the remainder of the money when the *Kaifong* returned to Hongkong. None of the 19 stowaways personally paid any money to the 6th defendant, who received altogether $760 from witness, and who agreed to look after their food.

Mr. Hastings cross-examined, and elicited that witness and the one who preceded him in the box were relatives, and that the former had called on his kinsman in gaol.

As to the agreement about landing the stowawaways in Cebu, half of the $80 was to be paid down and the remainder when the ship returned here. Witness, however, contradicted his previous statement that the stowaways personally paid no money to the 6th defendant by saying that he had seen the last witness pay the 6th defendant $40 which he had brought down from Amoy.

Another boarding-house keeper was examined, who stated that he made arrangements with the No. 1 fireman to send three stowaways on board.

This concluded the evidence, and his Worship, after having been addressed by the solicitors in the case, said he would first deal with the charge against the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 17th, and 39th defendants (the No. 1 fireman, steward, No. 1 compradore, tallyman, and cook respectively). With reference to the 3rd, 17th, and 39th, it was clear that they had been guilty of the offence with which they were charged, and under these circumstances he was justified in convicting them. As regarded the 4th defendant, the only evidence against him was that he had been seen talking to one of the stowaways, and that, in his Worship's opinion, was not sufficient to convict him. As to the 6th defendant, the evidence against him, as Mr. Hastings, his solicitor, had pointed out, had certainly been conflicting, but, putting himself in the position of a jury, his Worship felt quite satisfied on this point—that the 6th defendant took some of the stowaways on board, and he therefore had no hesitation in convicting him of being an aider and abbetter. The 3rd and 6th defendants would be fined $500 each or six months' imprisonment with hard labour, and the

17th and 39th defendants, who were not in the position of principal offenders, $150 each or two months. The rest of the defendants would have to be discharged. His Worship said he must be satisfied, and the onus lay on the prosecution to satisfy him, that there had been actual participation by each specific defendant —not generally, but specifically—in aiding and abbetting, and in the absence of definite proof they would be discharged.

After having undergone imprisonment since the 8th inst., 133 of the *Kaifong's* stowaways—one of them having already paid the fine of $150—were liberated from gaol on Friday on payment of the reduced penalty of $10 each, and will probably be shipped back to Amoy at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. G. K. H. Brutton, on behalf of Mr. Kaw Hong Take, merchant, Hoihow, said his Worship would recollect that about a week ago he made an application for the rehearing of the case, and he now asked that the decision arrived at be reconsidered, as the hearing of the charge against the crew of the *Kaifong* had shown, as was anticipated, that the compradore was the principal offender and was practically liable for the stowaways being on board the *Kaifong*. Mr. Brutton submitted that, from the evidence which had been adduced in the case, it would not have been possible for the stowaways to get on board but for the compradore, for in every instance in which stowaways were found on board ship, someone on the vessel must have helped them.

His Worship—It must be so; I understand about that.

Mr. Brutton—They could not possibly get on board without some person assisting them

His Worship—That is very obvious.

Mr. Brutton—The compradore is the man who enters into a contract with the owners of the ship for getting the cargo from shore on board, and he, under the superintendence of the first officer, is the person who looks after the stowing of that cargo, so that if there are any stowaways on board he primarily is responsible to the owners of the ship.

His Worship—A very large number of stowaways are put on board by firemen.

After further remarks by Mr. Brutton, his Worship asked if his client was prepared to pay a fine of $10 or $15 for each stowaway, and Mr. Brutton, after consulting with Mr. Kaw Hong Take, said he was prepared to pay the former amount. The money, he explained, would have to be raised by subscription, as the stowaways had no money.

Mr. G. C. C. Master, who attended on behalf of the owners, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was of opinion that the stowaways ought to have some punishment, although certainly they were not so guilty as those who put them on board, between whose case and their own some distinction should be drawn. Then again, continued Mr. Master, some distinction ought also to be made with reference to the three stowaways who gave evidence against the crew of the *Kaifong*, and thus helped to secure a conviction.

His Worship said he found that in these cases, when he fined the stowaways a nominal amount, the fines were paid and it was impossible to get any evidence against the real culprits. That being so, he thought the better way for him to do in the present case was to fine the stowaways heavily, and if any of them were innocent they could be called on to give evidence against those really culpable. As Mr. Master had said, three stowaways were called and proved successfully that the principal instigators were the compradore and his men. These three stowaways, it might be mentioned, adopted quite a different course when they were in the dock, evidently thinking they would get off with a merely nominal penalty. Under the circumstances, continued his Worship, he would grant Mr. Brutton's application and reduce the fines from $150 to $10. His object in sending the men to prison had had the desired effect, and there was no further reason for keeping them in gaol. At the same time however they were not so very innocent in the matter, as was seen in the fact that in their agreement they were to get back their money unless they were landed in Manila.

OPENING OF A SIKH TEMPLE IN HONGKONG.

On the 10th inst. the inauguration took place of the new Sikh and Hindu Temple, the "Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Hongkong," situated in the Gap behind Morrison Hill, leading from Wanchai to Happy Valley. The ceremony consisted in depositing in the building the Sacred Book of the Sikhs, and this was followed by a religious service and later by a meeting of a general nature, at which an account was given of the scheme which had resulted in the erection of the temple. The building is picturesquely situated and stands upon ground granted by the Government for that purpose. It is a handsome structure, reflecting much credit on the architect, Mr. B. Brotherton Harker, and it is eminently suited to the uses to which it is to be put. The basement floor is arranged as a shelter for strangers and will accommodate 30 or 40 such. A cook-house and offices are adjoining. Above is the temple proper, a spacious oblong apartment 30 feet by 50 feet, running the whole length of the building and opening out on to balconies on each side. At the upper end sits the officiating priest, and the floor is laid with carpets for the worshippers. This hall is approached from the front by a broad flight of steps. The facade of the temple is of Moresque design and presents a very pretty appearance Except for the grant of a site by the Government, the entire cost of the erection of the temple has been borne by the Sikh and Hindu community of this and some neighbouring coast towns. Yesterday's ceremony was the culmination of a design which the Sikh and Hindu community in these parts have fondly cherished for something like twenty years. The $12,000 or so that the completed temple and crematorium are estimated to cost have been almost all subscribed, but only by the exercise of great self-denial on the part of those concerned. It is unfortunate that now, when the scheme is on the direct road to completion, an objection should have been put forward by the Government to the effect that they cannot authorise the construction of the crematorium in the form proposed. Hitherto the cremation of the Sikh dead has been carried out by the primative method of a wood-fire in the open air. In connection with the temple a crematorian was proposed to be built at a cost of $500 or $600 which would have sufficed for all the needs of the community, but the authorities decline to sanction such a structure and recommend the erection of a crematorium on the European model. Such a place would cost anything from $20,000 to $30,000, and as the cost of cremating a dead body in that fashion is correspondingly expensive as compared with the present system the Sikhs find themselves quite unable to follow out the Government's recommendation. Considering that the bulk of the Sikh population in the Colony are in the Government service, would it not be a gracious thing for the local Legislature to provide the essential crematorium itself?

The company which attended the opening ceremony yesterday assembled at the Central Police Station at 8 a.m. and marched to the temple headed by the band of the Hongkong Regiment, which was present through the courtesy of Major Berger, commanding, and officers. The Sacred Book was caried in front. On arrival at the temple, the Book was with due ceremony deposited in the place of worship and a religious service followed. Then followed the general meeting before alluded to. Among those present were Subadar Ikbal Singh, R.A., president of the committee; Jemadar Lal Singh, H.K. Police, vice-president; Lala Sham Das, representing the Hindus on the committee; Seth Wasia Mall, representing the merchants; and Sirdar Kehr Singh, representing the watchmen; Bhai Raga Singh, priest; Subadar-Major Sirdar Khad, H.K.R. (who assisted in getting the band); Subadar Teja Singh, former president of the committee, who came from Singapore to take part in the ceremony; Subadar-Major Sri Garjadhar Pershad, 5th Hyderabad Regt.; Subadar Lall Singh, 22nd Bombay Inf. A number of Europeans were also present, including Mr. B. Brotherton Harker, the architect.

After a statement by LALA SHAM DAS in Hindustani,

Subadar TEJA SINGH gave an address in English. He pointed out that in the Colony there was a Sikh and Hindu community of about 700, but that though the R. A., the Police and the merchants had each a copy of the Sacred Book at their respective places there had hitherto been no centre where they could jointly offer their prayers and engage in the service. The provision of such a place had been thought of for the last twenty years, but the heavy cost had always stood in the way of its accomplishment. The coming of the China Field Force brought an opportunity however of their wishes being carried out. The Sikhs in the Force were asked to subscribe and every soldier, policeman, and watchman in the Colony gave one month's pay and the merchants one month's income. (Hear, hear.) The China Field Force assisted them very ably and other outside stations sent in their portions. For their success in securing a site from the Government thanks were due to Captain Bland, R.A., Mr. May of the Police, His Excellency the General Officer Commanding, and Mr. Ormsby of the P.W.D. The subscriptions were limited to Sikhs and Hindus. They had not thought it necessary to appeal to others for support, and, thank God! they had been able to effect their purpose, though they had no doubt that had they appealed to others that appeal would not have been made in vain. Among the subscripions worth noting were $2,50. from the H. K. Police, $2,285 from Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, H.K.S.B R.A., $1,461 from the China Field Force, $223 from the Victoria Gaol, and $634 from the Shanghai Municipal Police. The total sum amounted to about $10,500. After expressing the hope that the Public Works Department would grant permission for the erection of the proposed small crematorium, Subadar Teja Singh went on to say that their special thanks were due to Mr. Harker, who had kindly assisted them in getting the temple ready under circumstances of considerable difficulty and had done so in a manner reflecting the greatest credit upon him. He had now very great pleasure in asking Mr. Harker to accept, for Mrs. Harker, a ring as a token of their appreciation of his services, and he wished him and his wife long life and prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr. BROTHERTON HARKER, in acknowledging the gift—a handsome gold ring set with diamonds—thanked the donors very heartily for their kindness. That gift was a token of their appreciation of his endeavours to construct their temple to the best of his ability. The circumstances attending its construction had rendered his task rather difficult, but he was pleased to think that his work had given them satisfaction. (Applause.)

A photograph of the company having been taken, the formal proceedings terminated. A dinner was afterwards given to over 500 persons.

THE GENERAL POST OFFICE IN 1901.

The report of Mr E. Cornewall Lewis, Acting Postmaster General, for 1901 is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES.

Captain Hastings, the Postmaster General, after an absence of 19 months in England returned to the Colony and resumed his duties on the 19th September. Unfortunately he was obliged through illness to remain at home after only a month in office, and, I regret to add, never returned to duty. During his absence I was in charge of the Department.

Twenty-eight new appointments were made during the year, and twenty-one clerks resigned or were dismissed. The new appointments included a Deputy Superintendent of the Money Order Officers, three Assistant Marine Officers, and a Correspondence Clerk—all of these officers were very much required with the increased business in the Department as a whole. The principal cause of the resignations was the fact that these men alleged they could secure more remunerative employment, and less hard work, outside the Post Office.

Both of the Travelling Marine Officers at Shanghai resigned during the year after but a short period of service, on the ground of the insufficiency of the salary attached to their office. It was with some difficulty that their places could be efficiently filled.

INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A statement of the International and Local Correspondence received and despatched during the year shows a satisfactory increase on the business of the previous year, the totals being—Received: Letters and Postcards (including 107 Insured and 258,720 Registered) 2,453,297; other articles 1,563,590, and—Despatched: Letters and Postcards (including 153 Insured and 193,190 Registered) 2,639,013: other articles, 789,100.

The number of bags, &c, received and despatched also shows an increase on that of 1900, the total number actually dealt with at this Office being—Bags 81,269, Packets 8,678, Parcel Post Boxes 4,926, and Loose Letter Boxes 2,258. I have this year been able to give the number of steamers conveying these Mails, viz., 5,914 inwards and 6,626 outwards. Included in the former are 44 United States Mail Packets, 27 English P. & O. Contract Packets, 27 Messageries Maritimes Co.'s Packets, 26 German Mail Packets, and 14 Canadian.

It may be of interest also to mention that during the year the English mails were received at this Office on 2 occasions in 26 days, on 7 occasions in 27 days, on 11 occasions in 28 days, on 18 occasions in 29 days, and on other occasions in 30 to 35 days. On the two occasions referred to, once was by the P. &. O. Contract Packet and the other by a German Mail Packet. Twice during the year the mail by the Messageries Maritimes Co. had to be transferred, owing to accidents to their ships,—on one occasion the transfer was made to a steamer of the Japanese European line, at Colombo, and on another to the P. & O. Mail steamer at Singapore. In the last mentioned case the Marine Officer, I am pleased to say, brought both mails sorted to Hongkong.

With the exception of the loss of the P. & O. Mail Steamer *Sobraon* on her way from Shanghai to Hongkong in April (on which occasion the mails were fortunately saved and reached Hongkong in time to to despatched by the next German Mail Packet leaving 5 days later) and also on two or three other occasions when there was a delay of a few hours, the Mail Packets left Hongkong at their regular and appointed time. These mails all reached London in good time with the exception of the mail despatched on the 3rd June by the Messageries Maritimes Co.'s steamer *Laos*, when owing to plague on board on her arrival at Marseilles and her being quarantined, the mails were some days late in arriving in London.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

The total sales for the year amounted to $239,377.49, an advance on the sales of the previous year of no less a sum than $21,765.25. For comparison I may mention that the sales for the ten years previous to this were as follows, and go to prove that with the adoption of the Penny Postage the loss sustained in 1899 is being quickly made up:—

1891...	$ 92,275.87	1896..	$191,983.46
1892...	$ 99,895.42	1897...	$181,459.50
1893 .	$108,198.09	1898...	$233,195.77
1894...	$121,755.27	1899...	$216,791.45
1895	$151,166 48	1900...	$217,612.24

The sale of stamps at the British Post Office at Shanghai and at the British Postal Agencies in China amounted to $84,105.28, an increase of $6,599.12 on the previous year's receipts; the Shanghai Post Office receipts under this head being $38,749.64 in 1901 against $32,027.90 in 1900.

PARCEL POST.

Again this year the Parcel Post business shows a steady advance on the previous one. The total number of those received (including 3,607 insured) amounted to 43,161 and of those despatched (including 4,424 insured) amounted to 38,679.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue received from all sources was $355,912.74, exceeding that of 1900 by $30,309.41, and the Expenditure was $273,685 51, an increase of $38,422.43 on that of the previous year. The net balance to the credit of Hongkong Post Office on the year's transactions amounted to $82,227.23.

MONEY ORDERS.

The Money Order business done during the year 1901 was again a large one and exceeded that of the previous year by the sum of $79,762.03. The total amount of Orders issued and paid amounted to $621,381.26 and $560,521.39 respectively.

The sales of Imperial and Local Postal Notes in 1901 amounted to £6,918.12s. 1*d*. and $8,093.06 respectively, and exceeded the sales of the previous year—the former by £768.14s.11*d*. and the latter by $1,691.56. The selling rate of the Imperial Postal Notes ruled high for the greater part of the year owing to the uncertain and frequent fluctuations in the rate of exchange.

As already mentioned, a Deputy Superintendent of the Money Order Office was appointed owing to the increasing work in this Branch. This Officer's principal duties consisted of Indian Orders, and the Office was fortunate in being able to transfer an old and experienced employee in the person of Mr. Moosa to this work. As will be seen, the Orders drawn on India in 1901 exceeded those of the previous year by the large sum of Rs. 101,524. The additional help so much needed had hardly been given before the Superintendent, Mr. Dixon, one of the most capable and efficient officers in the Service, was removed by being transferred temporarily to Shanghai, thereby handicapping the Office in a most serious manner.

GENERAL.

I think I can fairly claim that the mails were delivered in as short a time after arriving at this Office as could reasonably be expected. I may mention the following averages—delivery to Boxholders by the French Packet was effected in 1 hour and 25 minutes after receipt, by the English Mail in 20 minutes after receipt, by the American Mail in 35 minutes after receipt, and by the German Mail in 1 hour and a quarter.

During the year many improvements were made to the Shanghai Office, and I am pleased to be able to state that this Office is much more used than formerly by the public. In the past it was reported they did not receive the courtesy and attention to which they were entitled and consequetly went elsewhere.

Many Foreign Post Offices were established in China during the year at places where none formerly existed. At some places this Office had Agencies, but, unfortunately where we had not any, no Office or Agencies have been opened. It is necessary, I think, that Postal Agencies should be established at Chefoo, Tientsin and Peking, as the large and increasing number of British residents at these places renders it only a national right that, providing no appreciable loss be anticipated, they should be given the facility to post in their own offices.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. W. GRAHAM.

On the 10th inst. Mr. Jas W. Graham, Manager, Shipwright Department, was presented in the Reading Room with a handsome silver tea-service, also a diamond and pearl pendant for Mrs. Graham, subscribed for by the Kowloon Docks staff, on the occasion of his leaving Kowloon Docks. Mr. Wm. Stewart in a few words made the presentation, remarking on behalf of the staff the general regret that was felt on Mr. Graham severing his connection with his colleagues and wishing him a safe voyage, long life and prosperity in the old country. Mr. Graham in replying referred to the good relations that had always existed between himself and the staff generally and assured them that they would receive a cordial welcome from him should they at any time come home.

Mr. Graham, who has been some time Lieutenant in the Engineer Company, Hongkong Volunteers, was at the same time presented by Lieut. Mitchell on behalf of the members with a piece of plate suitably inscribed. Lieut. Mitchell referred to Lieut Graham's good qualities as a Volunteer officer and also to his exceptional ability in the electrical engineering branch of the Engineer Company. Mr. J. Logan then proposed the health of Mr. Graham, which was drunk with much enthusiasm and suitably acknowledged.

In the evening Mr. Graham was entertained, to dinner in the Kowloon Hotel, Mr. W. Stewart being in the chair, and the duties of croupier being in the hands of Mr. R. W. Rutter. After an excellent dinner supplied in Mr. Osborne's good style, the usual loyal toasts were duly honoured. The Toast of "Our Guest" was proposed by Mr. Ewing. Songs were contributed by Messrs. Henderson, Kinross, Rutter, Deas, and Stewart. The company broke up after singing "God Save the King."

AMATEUR THEATRICALS AT CANTON.

The Canton Amateur Theatrical Society played Mr. A. W. Pinero's farce *The Magistrate* at the Club Theatre, Shameen, on the 10th inst. It was very unfortunate that the inclemency of the weather (it rained practically all night) kept away many who would otherwise have been present. Still, the rather sparse audience made up in enthusiasm what it lacked in numbers. Of those taking part, Mrs. Appleby as the Magistrate's wife, and Mrs. Sutton, as her sister, were both far above the average, and their acting was really excellent. Mrs. Bond as the music-mistress, and Mrs. Byworth as the maid-servant, both rendered their parts faultlessly. Of the men, Mr. E. T. Bond in the title-rôle was irresistibly funny, and his curious adventures in the hotel evoked long and sustained applause. Mr. L. H. Gilman as his under-aged son-in-law, who leads the staid Magistrate sadly astray, played the part to the life, and was warmly applauded. Messrs. R. Hancock and F. H. Bell, as two Anglo-Indian soldiers, were exceptionally good, their stormy interview with the police in the hotel being very fine. Mr. J. W. Loureiro and Mr. E. S. Sutton, in the parts of the proprietor and waiter of the Hotel des Princes, respectively, were delightfully French in their manner and appearance, and acted so, too. Mr. Sutton also took the part of the Magistrate's clerk, and his prim manner and official bearing formed a clever and striking contrast to his Isidore (the waiter) in the preceding act. The three members of the Metropolitan Police, Messrs. L. A. Byworth, G. W. Appleby, and T. C. Gray, all affected the stern austerity so necessary to the "limbs of the law." The Magistrate's butler, played by Mr. A. V. Hogg, was screamingly funny, and was greeted with applause every time he appeared.

It only remains to add that the onus of the entire production rested on Mr. F. H. Bell's shoulders, and he, ably assisted by Mr. B. Twyman, excelled himself in the stage-management of a piece that will always stand out in the annals of the Canton Amateur Theatrical Society.

CAPTAIN SCOTT AND HIS "DOTTER."

A DENIAL.

With reference to a statement published by the London Press "on official information," that Captain Percy Scott, of H.M.S. *Terrible*, had been permitted by the Admiralty to sell his patent of the "Dotter" to the United States, we wrote and questioned Captain Scott on the subject, and the following is his reply:—

"There is no truth in the statement. I never patented the apparatus but gave it to the British Admiralty in 1898, and since then have had nothing to do with it.—PERCY SCOTT."

Many will be glad to see the gallant Captain's denial, though he deserved something for a valuable patent, and it would be very interesting to learn if the "Dotter," with the use of which the *Terrible* has been able to accomplish such magnificent shooting results, has escaped from the British Navy, and if so, how?

MANCHURIA AND MONGOLIA.

The Russian Minister at Peking, it is said, proposed that all the guns mounted by Russia in Manchuria should be left intact for three years, urging that while the time for the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Manchuria is specified in the Manchurian Convention, nothing is said about the disposal of the guns. The Chinese Government has refused the proposal, as it is considered unjust. A telegram to the *Osuka Asahi* says that it has become known that when the Manchurian Convention was signed, the Russian Minister at Peking demanded that Mongolia should be placed under the joint rule of Russia and China. Prince Ching strongly opposed the demand, but Wang Wenshao thought that if Mongolia was made a neutral zone the other Powers would not protest. After negotiations with the Russian Minister, Wang drew up an agreement and obtained the approval of Yung Lu, but owing to the opposition of Prince

Ching and Yuan Shikai, the matter is now at a standstill. The substance of the proposed agreement, says the *Asahi's* correspondent, is as follows:—

1.—That the Chinese Government shall engage Russian officers to train the Mongolian troops.

2.—That Russia shall be granted the privilege of constructing forts at places necessary for the defence of the frontier.

3.—That in case a disturbance should break out in Mongolia, the Russian authorities shall deal with it on behalf of the Chinese Government.

4.—That Russia shall be given the privilege of establishing schools in Mongolia to teach the Russian language.

5.—That litigation between Russians and Chinese in Mongolia shall be tried in the Russian Court at Blagovestchensk.

6.—That the collection of taxes and the administration of the government in Mongolia shall be left in the hands of the Chinese officials as before, but no officials shall be appointed without the consent of the Russian authorities.

7.—That only Russians shall be allowed to remain in Mongolia, the residence of other foreigners being strictly prohibited.

FRENCH DESIGNS IN SOUTH CHINA.

[FROM OUR MACAO CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 13th May.

The latest sensational rumour circulated with more or less persistency in the best informed circles—both European and native—as to French designs in this part of China is to the effect that emissaries of the French Government have acquired from a Chinese owner an extensive tract of land in the promontory of Ca Tai, opposite the Nine Islands. Ca Tai is situate about thirty minutes' ride from Macao, and by those acquainted with its position is considered of immense strategic advantage to any Power aiming at the expansion of its influence in South China.

It is given out that the site, for which $120,000 (it is stated) has been paid, is bought for the purpose of erecting a naval hospital. How far this is true it has not been possible to ascertain. There is, nevertheless, a curious statement, and so far unaccountable, in the Directory for 1902 published by Didot-Botin in Paris, which gives the establishment of a naval hospital at Macao under M. Mennier as the chief medical officer. It is true that in the '60's there was such an institution here; but it seems impossible to reconcile the error of inclusion when the Directory gives the name of its Consular agent correctly as Mr. A. J. Basto, our esteemed citizen in Macao. Ca Tai by reason of its exceptional geographical position possesses deep anchorage and commands the entrance to Macao and Canton, and is calculated to be immensely suitable to the ends of a fleet having for its object the immediate and rapid descent on Hongkong. The transfer of the property must, in the ordinary course of things, come before the Chinese Government, and it is confidently expected that difficulty will be placed in the way for the consummation of the French Government's end. The conflicting interests that will arise between the interested Powers as to the maritime rights of the extensive bay which Ca Tai encloses on its one end will be difficult of a satisfactory solution and may give rise to international complications.

Mr. Wilkinson, British Claims Commissioner, has gone to Peking, after settling one or two final items of claims at Tientsin. He will report to the British Minister on the whole of the claims. It appears probable that, as was surmised during the hearing of the claims last autumn, the money will be paid over to the claimants at the beginning of June.

The Manila papers record the death at that port of John S. Cortes, second engineer of the steamer *Sungkiang*. A post-mortem examination was to be held to determine the cause of his death. The *Sungkiang* was the first ship to come in from Hongkong without a five day quarantine detention at Mariveles, the quarantine against Hongkong having been raised about ten days ago.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th May.

THE SOUTHERN REBELLION.

With reference to the rebellion in Kwangtung and Kwangsi, further news is to hand, which may be of interest to your readers. The rebellion was first begun in Kwangsi this year by some disbanded braves, and it has expanded, by the addition of large numbers of local banditti, to the number of from six to seven thousand. Its headquarter is in Nanning in the province of Kwangsi and the surrounding districts. The rebels have built their forts and camps and they have their regular generals Their chief wears a small straw hat trimmed with red ribbons hanging down to the shoulders —a military get-up that looks very like that of an actor—and he rides on a horse. The arms the rebels use are Mauser quick-firing rifles. They have had fights with the Imperialist soldiers in the districts of Shun Fa, Chum Chow, Low Chow, and Wa Lum in Kwangsi, and Yum Chow, Lim Chow, Ko Chow, and Wai Chow in Kwangtung. The small number of soldiers despatched by the Viceroy of Canton being defeated, General Chau Ping Chik sent another requisition to His Excellency for further reinforcements.

One of the rebel generals was the other day killed, and the story related to me is as follows:—Tam Yuk, a native of Ng Chün in the districts of Namhoi, when he was fourteen years of age, was adopted by the late rebel chief Aw Sun as a son. He was very active and intelligent, and in any plunder party he always headed the gang. A large reward was promised by the mandarin for his capture. A few days ago at a fight in the village of Satow he and his comrades were surrounded by soldiers; and as he was more active than the rest he escaped and ran into a silk filature shop. This the soldiers surrounded, and he again escaped to a distance of about three or four miles, when he was shot in the back and legs and died. His head was cut off and taken to the Namhoi Magistrate.

AN ENLIGHTENED OFFICIAL.

Ever since Kung Sum Cham was appointed acting prefect in Canton he has introduced many reforms in his yamen. He has dismissed several chief porters or *Mun Sheongs* from his office who were shown to have become rich by squeezes, and employed *Wei Yüns* in their stead. As he was an interpreter in Viceroy's yamen, he had frequently come into contact with foreign consuls and acquired a great experience in the transaction of affairs with foreigners. Lately he has ordered a new reception room to be built in the Western part of his garden in the yamen for the purpose of receiving guests, and this will be completed in two or three weeks. He is of the age of thirty-four, very intelligent and friendly to foreigners, and he has been in Europe on official missions. His colleagues envy him, because he holds seven or eight positions.

A TAX ON SAMSHU.

The Canton high officials intend to impose a tax on samshu, charging on each jar two taels or $2.78 a month. The same proposition has been sent to all the officials in the different districts of Kwangtung to report thereon, and some merchants have offered to take monopolies in different districts. Probably this scheme will be adopted.

A DIFFICULT ESSAY.

The Namhoi and Punyu Magistrates have issued official notifications that on the 10th inst. literary examinations of the students in the different districts are to be held. One of the themes set for the students to write upon is "The Government of the different foreign countries." What they can make of it, I really don't know.

A LADY TOURIST.

It is said that a certain Chinese lady, by name Cheong Chuk Kwan, is going on a tour round the world starting this or next week. As a rule a Chinese lady is considered virtuous if she keeps within doors; but this lady is different from the rest of her sex. She is rich, and well educated in English. Having progressive ideas she is going to see what Europe and America are like. This is the first and only instance in which a Chinese lady has ever attempted such venture.

HOW TO AVOID LEKIN.

At Chiuchao prefecture, Fohkien, there are no *lekin* taxes. Three or four years ago when the late Imperial extortioner K'ang I came to Canton to raise money for the government, the native merchants of Chiuchao agreed to pay to the government fifty thousand taels every year, so as to be free from the payment of *lekin*. This year the Viceroy sent General Wong Kum Fook, and sub-prefect Chong I to Fohkien, to consult the gentry and merchants there about the *lekin* taxes. The latter in addition to the fifty thousand taels which they have paid yearly are willing to add a further sum of one hundred thousand taels annually so as to be exempted from the payment of *lekin*. This has been granted.

AN EMBANKMENT SCHEME.

In Canton there is a bureau known as the "Chow Heung Kuk" instituted by order of the Viceroy, the object of which is to consider any arrangement likely to bring in money for the purpose of paying the foreign indemnity. A certain Taotai Hu is a president. Anybody who is able to suggest means to make money can approach him. Some merchants have formed a company named the Wa On with a capital of seven hundred thousand dollars, to be raised by subscription, for the purpose of making embankments along the river front. Three hundred thousand dollars are to be paid to the government if these have proved failures. The reasons are—firstly that the people of Canton are becoming poorer day by day by the official squeezes and by the different taxes imposed upon them, so it is not easy to raise seven hundred thousand dollars: secondly, that the reclamation of the river fronts will certainly come under the control of Sing Sün Wai, the superintendent of the Hankow and Canton Railway Company; thirdly, the scheme of filling up the embankments if undertaken by merchants will certainly need government permission. When the river fronts have been reclaimed and sold, then the shareholders are to be repaid of their shares by the proceeds of sale; sixty per cent. of the interest is to be paid to the officials as gratuity, and forty per cent. to be retained by the Company. This is the proposition, which, I am afraid, cannot be carried through; for in Canton there have been many amount of such schemes to raise money for the officials; but the greater part meet with opposition on the part of the shopkeepers, who live at present along the river front.

PAKHOI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Pakhoi, 9th May.

A CURIOUS CASE.

The German steamer *Apenrade*, with 20,000 tins of kerosene oil and a few hundred packages of general cargo from Hongkong, arrived on Sunday last. On opening the hatch the following (Monday) morning for unloading, a strange sight presented itself to those on board—a dead Chinaman, apparently a coolie or stevedore, was discovered amongst the cargo in the hold. How he came to be there, none on board could advance any explanation. From the state of decomposition, the unfortunate Chinaman appear to have been dead for days previous. The remains were soon removed ashore. As we have no sanitary authorities, the steamer was not placed in quarantine or otherwise molested in consequence. The *Apenrade* left for Haiphong on the morning of the 6th inst., after discharging the portion of cargo destined for this port. How differently would have been the case had the vessel arrived at Hongkong from Pakhoi with a dead body shut up in the hold for days, especially after the declaration of the British Consul here that "bubonic plague is epidemic at Pakhoi and the neighbouring district," but, by the bye, it is not quite so virulent as to warrant an alarm being raised. Considering that plague is endemic in the port and its yearly recurrence is a certainty, a few cases of plague should not cause any alarm during the hot months of the year. In former years, plague here has been ten times worse than at present.

PAKHOI HONGKONG TRADE.

The restraint placed in Hongkong on vessels from this port will materially interfere with the

passenger traffic, as no ticket for Hongkong is granted in the agency here to natives for Hongkong.

THE DROUGHT.

The weather continues very hot, the thermometer being as high as 92 deg. F. in the shade at midday. The needed rain is looked for with eagerness, but it has not come, notwithstanding the constant prayers and sacrifices offered by the natives by not slaughtering pigs for days consecutively. On the morning of the 7th inst. a few drops of rain fell, but it was not enough to moisten the parched soil. The dry weather is telling most on the children in general, who are suffering from a most malignant sort of cough.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 14th May.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

The Russian cruiser *Razboynik* called in here some time ago and after a couple of days' stay here left for the North.

LEKIN.

Great dissatisfaction prevails here, both in foreign and in native circles, anent the Chinese Government's intention to impose a *lekin* tax on all goods inward and outward, as well as on commodities locally produced. I hear the *lekin* tax to be levied will be 1 per cent. *ad valorem*, by which it is expected to raise the necessary $150,000 demanded by the provincial Government. As a matter of fact 1 per cent. will yield a far greater amount than the sum stated. The mercantile community strongly protests against the Government's action and opines that the settlement of the new treaty ought to be awaited before raising any new taxes. Unless official representations are made, *lekin* will actually be levied and that at no distant date. It is trusted this matter, which is of vital importance, will be brought to the notice of Sir James Mackay.

DUTY ON PARCELS.

Parcels inward or outward by either British or Chinese post-offices are now charged duty by the I. M. Customs.

RAIN.

It has been raining, with intermissions, from the 6th to the 10th instant, which yielded a supply of over 7 inches of water. This last downpour has to a certain extent, replenished our almost emptied reserovirs and we are well supplied with water now. During the recent heavy showers the native city was flooded, owing to the drains being choked. Whilst writing this it is raining very heavily.

RECOVERY OF A BODY FROM THE 'HOIMOON."

Last Saturday fishermen reported having seen the body of an European on a rock outside Swatow. The German Consul and the Harbour Master went outside and had the corpse brought in. It was interred in the Kackchioh cemetery on Sunday morning. This was the body of one of the two Europeans drowned in the foundering of the s.s. *Hoimoon*.

TERRIBLE HOMICIDE.

The *Swatow Daily News*, a Chinese daily, has the following story. There arrived by the *Haitan* from Hongkong a Singapore Chinaman on the 5th instant. On landing here, he was seen to possess a quantity of luggage and a lot of money. He was bound for Po-hing, his native place. On leaving for there he was followed by 16 robbers. Before reaching his destination the passenger had to put up for a night in an inn at Kitty-Yong, where the 16 robbers also lodged. At 3 o'clock in the morning the innkeeper heard cries for help and immediately after he heard poeple talking in a low tone to each other. Although he suspected foul play, the innkeeper for fear of his own life did not dare to make any enquiries as to the cause of the noise. Early next morning he had the matter reported to the nearest guard-house, which despatched 40 braves to the hostelry. They instituted a search in the place and found the body of the passenger hacked to pieces in a basket belonging to him. All the 16 culprits were arrested and are awaiting sentence.

King Theebaw's throne is to be removed from Mandalay.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 3rd inst:—

The following notification was issued from the United States Consulate on 29th April:—At the request of the Chinese Provincial authorities, I hereby caution all American citizens against journeying for any cause through the Chuan-Chow and Chiang-Chow prefectures, in the Southern part of this Province, because of local disturbance.—Samuel L. Gracey, Consul.

Rear-Admiral von Ahlefeld arrived here from Hongkong on the 28th April on board his Flagship H.I.G.M.S., *Hansa*, under the Command of Captain Paschen. He proposes to leave for Taku *via* other Formosan ports on the 4th instant. The above event has been made an occasion for considerable festivity in his honour at the home of Mr. G. Siemssen, the German Consul at this port, who on Thursday entertained the High Chinese officials, the Admiral and Suite and Foreign Consuls at tiffin. The proceedings were enlivened by the music of the very excellent Band of the *Hansa* kindly lent for the occasion, and much interest was evoked by the special performance of "*Historical Trumpets*." The event above recorded was followed by a garden and tennis party in the beautiful grounds adjoining Mr. Siemssen's house, which afford an ideal environment for such entertainment, the attractions of which were further enhanced by the graceful selection of music rendered by the band. Last evening a "Ball" given by Mr. Siemssen formed an enjoyable sequel to other festivities in the Admiral's honour and we understand that to-day the genial and hospitable host and his family are the guests of the Admiral on board the Flagship at Pagoda.

Considerable excitement has been caused in the Port of late by the flames and sparks which are so constantly issuing from the chimney of the new Chinese Brick Tea Factory. Many of the residents in the neighbourhood, both native and foreign, are much concerned, and the local agents of the Insurance Companies are hesitating about accepting further risks anywhere near the premises. It is rumoured that a petition has been forwarded to the Officials by the residents in the vicinity, pointing out the danger and praying for the closing of the factory. It is certainly one of the sights of the Port, especially at night when the flames show up very conspicuously; the great heat from them has already bent the lightning conductor at the top of chimney. Should any serious fire or explosion take place at the premises the officials should certainly be held responsible for allowing the place to be started in the midst of such a crowded neighbourhood. It is to be hoped they will order the closing of the factory before anything of the sort occurs.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 3rd inst.:—

Lieut. Sprouls in his capacity as Assistant Transport Officer has been succeeded by Lieut. Birdwood, at present attached to the Gourkhas.

The highly esteemed and popular Col. Salsa, in command of the Italian contingent here, will shortly leave for home: he will be succeeded by Col. Ameglio.

The Adjutant of the Japanese troops in Peking has written giving formal contradiction to the reports concerning Japanese soldiers trying to force the Chien Men.

The Court returned on Tuesday from its visit to the Eastern Tombs. The Emperor and Empress Dowager offered the usual worship at the small temples in the bailey at the Chien Men. The foreigners present were recognised on the part of the Dowager by nods and becks and wreathed smiles.

Bishop Scott has just completed an extensive diocesan visit and took Tientsin *en route* for Peking. He assisted at the services in All Saints last Sunday. We note that building operations have re-begun in the Church compound.

The two British Councils this week resolved hereafter to transcribe for publication such parts of their minutes and proceedings as may be deemed of public interest. They will be communicated to the Press after being visèd by the Chairman.

The foundations for the mounting of the big bell are being dug out in Victoria Park. The bell is located at the south-east corner of the garden; when it is tolled, care will have to be taken lest passing horses take fright, as it is very close to the road.

The siege memento in the shape of a shell executed in silver to serve as a chain pendant has arrived this week. They have been made in Japan from a design or selection by General de Wogack, and are now being distributed to subscribers only by the *Tientsin Press*. It bears the dates of June 17th, June 23rd and July 14th, and the subscriber's name with "Tientsin, 1900."

A literate down here from Tsun Hwa brings a story which is inherently not improbable. A well known general got the rebel chiefs to come down out of the hills south of Jeh Ho, where they were inaccessible, to discuss the terms of a settlement. They were invited to a feast, and when well at it were hacked to pieces by soldiers who rushed in when a lieutenant shouted "*K'an*." The general's complicity was uncertain of course.

Among the minor suggestions of Sir James McKay is one for the opening up of Moukden, Harbin, Taitsihar, and other Manchurian centres to foreign trade. If there be a trace of political wisdom left in Peking the suggestion should be carefully considered. As we have often remarked before, China's only security for continued existence now lies in the nice equipoise of conflicting interests. It is for this reason that we advocated the multiplication of foreign Concessions in Tientsin. Had Talienwan been made a treaty-port before 1894, it would in all probability not have gone into the capacious maw of *Ursus Major*.

Reports were current early in the week in Peking that the Boxers were again openly demonstrating at Chingting-fu on the Lu Hanline. The metropolitan authorities at once asked the Viceroy to see to the matter, and there was a belief that he was about to proceed to the place in person. On Wednesday a Peking correspondent stated there was a collision between a few of Yuan's men and the disaffected, but with what result was uncertain. —Just in going to press we are assured on more or less reliable information derived from a native preacher who has come in from Cheng Ting-fu that the so-called Boxer drills are really by members of the *Lien Chwang Hui* or Associated Villages who thus protest against the levying of the new taxes.

The Russian light draft steamer *Samson* has arrived at Newchwang and will, it is thought, be at once placed on patrol-duty in the upper and shallower reaches of the River. It is hoped that she will prove both a terror and a deterrent to the pirates who prey on the bean-boats. These vessels under the present regime, or want of regime, have either to pay blackmail or be robbed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE FRENCH AT CA TAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 16th May.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to encroach on your valuable space and raise a dissenting voice? It seems rather exacting on the part of your Macao correspondent to expect us to be gulled with the rather startling news he has just provided for us, *i.e.*, the acquisition by emisearies of the French Government of land close to Macao! I may say at once that I do not think such a purchase possible, for this simple reason, that it would have to come before the Chinese Government in Peking; as your far-seeing correspondent himself tells us, and would not then be ratified, as it is not within the limits of a free port; moreover, as your far-seeing correspondent does *not* tell us, it would constitute a violation of the Sino-Franco-British Convention relating to the three southern provinces of China.

Apart from such reasons, I cannot see as far as your correspondent, who already descries, in the *very dim* future, "a fleet [French, I suppose] having for its object the immediate and rapid

descent on Hongkong." Poor fleet that could be "immensely suited" by the Ca Tai Promontory! I thought fleets sought their rest and refuge in harbours and bays and such sheltering places, not on promontories. I have just looked on the marine chart to find that "deep anchorage"; to my astonishment I only read *sixteen* feet of water at high tide, and that is the maximum depth round the said promontary! Poor fleet! I have some misgivings about her already. Had the French Government sought the advice of a perspicacious man, such as for instance your Macao correspondent, they would at least have included the Nine Islands in the bargain!—Yours, etc.,

COMMONSENSE.

STAR FERRY CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the fourth ordinary annual meeting to be held at No. 2, Connaught Road, at noon on Wednesday, the 21st inst.:—

The directors have the pleasure to submit to shareholders their report with a statement of accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1902.

ACCOUNTS.

The nett earnings of the boats after paying all working expenses were $28,182 18 as against $32,329.64 last year, being a decrease of $4,147.46.

The amount at credit of profit and loss account after paying for repairs is $25.606.09, which, with the approval of shareholders, it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

Directors and auditor's fees	$ 1,000.00
Dividend of 12 %	15,000.00
Write off boats	6,910.00
„ „ goodwill	1,000.00
„ „ Ice House Street Pier...	1,519.01
Carry forward to new account ...	177.08
	$25,606.09

Capital.—Of the new issue of capital 390 shares were not taken up and were accordingly sold.

Boats.—A new boat, the *Polar Star*, was completed in March last. The old boats *Evening Star* and *Rising Star* will be sold when a suitable opportunity offers.

Ice House Street Pier.—In addition to the alterations referred to in last report, it was found necessary to strengthen the guide piles, the cost of which was $2,519.01.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. N. A Siebs retires but offers himself for re-election.

The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. J. A. Mackay resigned, and their places have been taken by Mr. A. J. Raymond and Mr. D. M. Moses respectively. These appointments require confirmation.

AUDITOR.

Mr. W. H. Potts has audited the accounts now presented and offers himself for re-election.

N. A. SIEBS, Chairman.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET.

30th April, 1902.

LIABILITIES.	$ c.	$ c.
To capital:—		
10,000 shares at $10 each fully paid up	100,000.00	
New capital (10,000 shares at $10 each $2½ paid up)	25,000.00	
		125,000.00
To second call on new capital		18,828.00
To reserve fund as per last account		20,000.00
To unclaimed dividends		134.25
To sundry creditors:—		
To accounts payable	$26,335.10	
To directors' and auditor's fees	1,000.00	
To dividend	15,000.00	
		42,335.10
To balance of profit and loss account		177.08
		$206,474.43

ASSETS.	$ c.	$ c.
By value of boats as per last account	138,000.00	
By since expended on new capstans	1,160.00	
By cost of *Polar Star*	37,750.00	
	$176,910.00	
Less written off	6,910.00	
		170,000.00
By value of goodwill as per last account	$6,000.00	
Less written off	1,000.00	
		5,000.00
By accounts receivable		3,385.27
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank		20,754.91
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank No. 2 account		134.25
By value of turnstiles as per last account		2,000.00
By cost of alterations to Ice House Street pier as per last account	$4,000.00	
Since expended	2,519.01	
	$6,519.01	
Less written off	1,519.01	
		5,000.00
By cash in hand		200.00
		$206,474.43

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	$ c.	$ c.
To repairs and alterations to boats		6.081.16
To balance appropriated as follows:—		
Directors' and auditor's fees	$1,000.00	
Dividend of 12 per cent	15,000.00	
Written off boats	6,910.00	
Written off goodwill	1,000.00	
Written off Ice House Street pier	1,519.01	
Carried to new account	177.08	
		25,606.09
		$31.687 25
By balance from last account		774.40
By net earnings of boats		28,182.18
By interest		59.57
By scrip fees		131.00
By premium on 390 forfeited shares at $1½		585.00
By profit on sale of 390 forfeited shares		1,955.10
		$31,687.25

RESERVE FUND.

To balance	$20,000.00
By balance from last account	$20,000.00

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the first ordinary general meeting to be held at the office of the general managers on Saturday, 24th May, at 11 a m.

Annexed we beg to lay before shareholders the annual statement of accounts made up to the 28th February, 1902.

The working account shows a loss of $10,906.21 and after writing off $9,940.26 for depreciation of machinery, etc., there remains a balance of $20,846.47 to be carried forward to the debit of next year's account.

This result must not however be considered as a fair criterion of the Company's prospects, or of what the result should be of an ordinary year's working. No revenue whatever has been derived from the works at Kowloon, as owing to protracted delays which seem inevitable with all building operations in this Colony, the works over there are only now approaching completion, and at Canton, although the record has been one of steady progress, time has necessarily been consumed in obtaining new customers and in installing the light in their houses, so that even there we have not had the benefit of twelve full months' work. In fact the result should be regarded more as preliminary expenses than as an actual loss on working.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs C. P. Chater and H. P. White re ire but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1902.

Accounts for the year ending 28th February, 1902.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	$ c.
Auditors' fees	200.00
Interest	3,036.35
Charges	291.63
Amount written off as depreciation for the year	9,940.26
Balance of working account	7,378.23
	$20,846.47

	$ c.
Balance	20,846.47
	$20,846.47

BALANCE-SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	$ c.
Capital 15,000 shares at $20 each	300,000.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	77,863.82
Sundry creditors	27,129.48
	$404,993.30

ASSETS.	$ c.	$ c.
Kowloon:—		
Land, building and machinery		127,243.58
Materials in stock, valued at		36,352.57
Canton:—		
Building and machinery	$179,940.26	
Less depreciation	9,940.26	
		170,000.00
Street-lines, fittings, coal, etc., in stock, valued at		34,313.62
Furniture		306.95
Value of fire insurance premia on unexpired policies		475.03
Sundry debtors		12,554.96
Cash in hand at Canton		2,900.12
Balance of profit and loss account		20,846.47
		$404,993.30

REVIEWS.

China in Convulsion. By ARTHUR H. SMITH. Two volumes, with numerous illustrations, and maps. New York, Chicago, and Toronto, Fleming H. Revell Co.

AMONG the books about the present crisis which have been looked forward to by the reading public, none has been awaited with more anticipation of interest than that from the pen of the author of *Chinese Characteristics* and *Village Life in China*—for it was of course assumed that Dr. A. H. Smith would not let such an opportunity pass by of giving to the world the record of so momentous a period, in which he too had his part to play. The pleasurable expectations were partly due to the ability and knowledge of his subject which Dr. Smith has shown in his previous works, and partly to his well-known fairness of mind, which is a very necessary equipment in the matter of a book on China. We may say at once that the hopes of expectant readers will not be disappointed. Excellently bound and got up by the American publishers to whom the author entrusted his work, and illustrated with a most intersting collection of photographs taken on the spot and a number of carefully prepared maps, *China in Convulsion* comes to us with all the extrinsic advantages which such a book can enjoy. Of the text itself, if we offer here any criticism, it is because such a production can well stand criticism and because our readers will understand that its merits must amply outweigh all slight defec's.

Dr. Smith deals with the whole history of the so-called "Boxer" movement, from its first origins down to its close, and considers its effects. To the siege of the Legations in Peking, where he was one of the garrison, the author naturally devotes much space, and here we get invaluable first-hand evidence. The publishers do not claim too much for *China in Convulsion* when they say it will be authority on the most significant epoch in the history of the Far East.

Dr. Smith is, as we have said, essentially a fair-minded writer. And nowhere is the quality of fair-mindedness more necessary than in a missionary in China. There is inevitably such a thing as a missionary bias, in a greater degree than there is a mercantile bias, a diplomatic or a scholarly bias. The fact of missionaries being divided into at least two camps, moreover, still further complicates their attitude of mind. Hence Dr. Smith's chapters on "Protestants" and "Roman Catholics in China" are a good test of his judgment. A paragraph in the former of these two chapters, on the subject of Christianity and ancestor worship, may be quoted with advantage:—

"We are not concerned," says Dr. Smith, "at this time either to defend the almost universal judgment of the Christian Church in China in regard to the worship of ancestors, or to enquire by what means some *via media* may be employed to combine reverence to man and worship to God, so that neither shall infringe on the other. Our object is simply to make it clear that we recognise the present

attitude of the Christian Church (Protestant and Catholic alike) is a great bar to the spread of the gospel in China, and perhaps the most potent single cause of Chinese hostility."

If this admission were made by all missionaries, we should hear far less of what is called "anti-missionary" sentiment among European residents in China. But unfortunately such commendable commonsense is extremely rare. Nor do we find many of his colleagues ready to echo the author's statement that "for the precipitation of the tremendous crisis which has occurred, the proportion of responsibility of Protestant missions is undoubtedly real"—even though he goes on to qualify this by the addition: "But it is a small and a relatively insignificant factor." We need not be surprised to find Dr. Smith concluding his chapter on Roman Catholics in China with these words:—"The universal and deep-seated animosity to the claims and practices of the Roman Catholic Church throughout the Empire have added greatly to the fury and to the bitterness of the attacks, and will contribute materially to the difficulty of a permanent settlement. A frank recognition of this indisputable fact will be of the greatest service to the interests of the Chinese people, and to the peaceful spread of the religion which, for the welfare of that people, has endured so much persecution and suffered so many martyrdoms." In spite of the able apologists of Roman missions in China, the case of the Chinese against these missions is abundantly made out. The entirely insincere "protectorate" of France, herself a persecutor of missions, over Roman propagandists in China, cannot be explained away, and even the propriety of talking of "martyrdom" in many cases is more than doubtful. At any rate the martyrdom is confined to the individual and not to the body which is backed up by gunboats and extortionate claims for indemnity.

An interesting chapter is that on "The Commercial Intrusion." Here, of course, Dr. Smith deals with the much-vexed opium question. We have not space to go into his arguments, but we may note that, though by no means a bigoted anti-opiumist, he relies too much on the writings of Chang Chih-tung and the like, with the implication that the Chinese bear an undying moral objection against Europeans for forcing a curse upon their country. A statement like the following is not warranted by facts:—"While no riot can be said to have had its origin solely through the use of opium, it is doubtful if there has ever been any outbreak in China against the men from beyond the sea which was not either started or promoted by opium-smokers at their places of resort, where the worst characters in every Chinese city, market-town, and village are invariably attracted." Reliable medical evidence is entirely against the contention that opium-smokers are turbulent and law-breaking individuals. However, there is much sound sense in the chapter as a whole, and its conclusions cannot well be cavilled at. With regard to foreign trade in China, "the idea of a real reciprocity," says Dr. Smith, "in which way is advantageous to one party may be in a different way not less so to another, is entirely alien to Chinese thought." But it may be remarked that reciprocity between Chinese and white men *in other countries* is not a policy which the Chinese often see upheld by foreigners.

The above-mentioned and the other early chapters of *China in Convulsion* all serve as an introduction to the history of the rising in 1900. A very careful and elaborate account of the whole movement occupy the greater part of the book. Into this we need not go. Our readers will quite appreciate that the author is qualified in the fullest degree to write such an account, and the fact that the official documents to which he was able to turn were necessarily scanty will not shake the confidence felt in his thorough enquiry into all sources of information. Dr. Smith says that "there is some reason to fear that through imperfect knowledge some events are not set forth in their due proportions and just relations." But we may feel sure that it would indeed be a difficult task to succeed where Dr. Smith has failed. Especially is this the case in the description of the siege of Peking, an admirable account of a wonderful event. We may perhaps—we hope without causing any remarks about "anti-missionary bias," since to impugn in any way the attitude of the missionaries is far from our wish—take some exception to the introduction of the twenty-seventh chapter, on "The Hand of God during the Siege," which was no doubt appropriate enough as an address at an Union Thanksgiving Service in the British Legation grounds on the 19th August, 1900, but is decidedly less in place in a book like that before us. It seems to us a trifle grotesque to dwell on the almost incredible folly of the Chinese besiegers, from a military point of view, as a glorious example of divine aid to the besieged. We cannot help being reminded by parts of this chapter, of the *Deus ex machina* of the early Theatre. However, the reader is only concerned with the author's theological attitude in so far as it affects the value of his work, and this in the case of *China in Convulsion* is extremely little.

We will take leave of Dr. A. H. Smith's book by cordially commending it to everyone interested in the recent history and present state of China. We should like to cite, had we the space, some passages from the final chapter on "Foreign Occupation," but we must content ourselves with drawing particular attention to it, for it presents the view of an exceedingly able observer on a very difficult question.

The copy before us of *China in Convulsion* was forwarded to us by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, with whom it is on sale.

Papers from a Viceroy's Yamen. By KU HUNG-MING, M.A. Shanghai, Kelly & Walsh. As an author, or rather newspaper writer (for the book under review is simply a compilation of articles dealing with affairs in China and their disastrous culmination in the events of last year) Mr. Ku Hung-ming is quite unknown to the reading public, the articles in question having been published anonymously; and by way of explaining his identity it may be stated that he is secretary-interpreter to H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of Hukuang, and a graduate of Edinburgh University. The articles, or papers, which have been republished in their present form with the object of attaining a wider circulation, are, of course, written from a distinctly Chinese standpoint, so that the arguments they contain must necessarily lose somewhat in value and force. The writer is generous to admit, however, that the troubles in China were not entirely due to the fault of foreigners, but to mistakes on both sides; and on one point we think that readers resident in this part of the world will find themselves in accord with his views—in his plea for some modification and control of the whole missien scheme as it now exists in China—a scheme which he characterises as one of charity for unemployed professional persons from Europe and America. Here one sees an example of that extravagance of language so frequently indulged in by the writer, but which is only natural when considered from the point of view of a man whose great love of country prompted him, when all else failed, to take up his pen and through the medium of the foreign Press make an appeal to the world at large for that consideration of internal conditions and circumstances which it appeared to him would result in the certain cessation of trouble by the removal of the influences responsible for its existence, and in the lasting pacification of China. To attain that pacification, the writer says that in view of what he describes as "the present ridiculously inadequate and false knowledge of the true state of things in China among foreigners," the one true policy for the Powers to adopt is not the policy of the "open door," but the policy of "let the Chinaman alone." What the adoption of that policy would eventually lead to, however, is a question fraught with many possibilities. Besides the missionaries, the Reform party in China is also attacked, and to it is attributed a great share in bringing about the troubles in the North. The writer's version of the origin of the Boxer movement is interesting. He says:—"The name of the original legitimate first so-called Boxer society, *Yi-ho-t'uan* may be translated as 'friendly society of good men and true,' or 'society of honest men for mutual defence.' In order to carry out the object for which the societies were formed, viz., the defence of their persons and property in their village homes, the members of these societies were required to practice 'boxing' and other gymnastic exercises. Hence 'the noble art of self-defence,' including other exercises as well, practised and taught by these societies—the art or science, and not the societies themselves, was called the *aji-hoch uaw*. This . . was the original Boxer movement. . . . . object was defence, not defiance." These and many other details of a like nature go to make the book an interesting one, but beyond its value as a medium for enlightenment on such matters, we are inclined to the belief that the book will have no material effect in the appreciable revolutionising of public opinion amongst foreigners as to the methods to be employed in the administration of the affairs of the Chinese Empire. The events of last year and the causes, rightly or wrongly, that are deemed to have brought them about will not readily be forgotten, and whilst their memory lives there can be little hope for the indulgence which the book craves for.

SHANGHAI RACES.

In the race for the Shanghai Derby, on the second day of the Shanghai Spring meeting, 15 ponies faced the starter. At the fall of the flag *Sirocco* took the lead attended by *Flying Scotchman* and *Zeus*. Passing the stand *Coronation* had assumed the lead with *Zeus* and *Flying Scotchman* in close pursuit, *His Excellency* last. At the back straight *His Excellency* moved from the ruck and assumed third place. Nearing Probst's Corner *Zeus* led followed by *His Excellency* and *Coronation*, *The Victor* fourth. Passing the Monument *Gray Dawn* was seen getting through the field and rounding the Bend he was first, with *Tarakoal* in hot chase. A grand race home ensued between *Tarakoal* and *Gray Dawn*, but the former passed the Box half a length ahead of the latter, while *Windrush* came with a wet sail two lengths behind, third. Time, 3.14 4/5 secs. *Tarakoal* was ridden by Mr. Campbell, *Gray Dawn* by Mr. C. R. Barkill, *Windrush* by Mr. W. W. Cox. *His Excellency* was a strong favourite in the Pari Mutuel. The dividends were:—1st, $16.70; 2nd, $20.50; 3rd, $16.50.

To the Imperial Cup race on the same day more than ordinary interest was attached, as it was for the Cup presented by Prince Chun. There was a large field of 22. *Style* and *Upset* were leading at the drop of the flag, and from the field well up together *Castaway* came away. At the back straight *Toronto* and *Loch Fleet* were in the favourite places, but *Pfeil* and *Discord* soon passed them, with *Clansman* in a position which he soon improved and held for a brief time. At the entrance to the straight Mr. G. H. Potts's *Rebel King* (Mr. C. R. Barkill up) and *Windrush* (Mr. Weilleumier up) challenged each other, and *Joker* came up on the rails. A very keen run between the two leaders ended in *Windrush* being beaten by *Rebel King* in a length. *Yarrow*, third in, was a length behind *Windrush*, both those ponies being in Toeg's stable. Time, 2.40 3/5 secs. Dividend:—$27.00,—$8.30, $9.80, $24.90.

The Formosan authorities have decided to enact a law relating to the encouragement of the manufacture of sugar on the island. The law is said to be composed of thirteen articles. It is proposed to lend machines and also supply shoots of sugar-cane and manure free. The grant of a charter to cultivate land, and the methods of irrigation are reserved by the Government. A draft of the proposed law will be shortly submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

A Peking telegram to Japan, dated April 29th, states that Russian influence in Central Mongolia is reaching conspicuous importance. 1,200 Russians (troops probably) are stationed at Kulon. There is no sign of their withdrawal (the telegram says). There are over 1,000 Europeans at the place and they have arranged a settlement there. A report regarding the construction of railway between Kiakhta and this place Kulon is confirmed. A survey for the line (according to this cable) has already been finished and a survey between Kulon and Kalgan is going on at present. The same telegram adds that the tea-market at Kiakhta has revived and good business is being done.

NAGASAKI AND HONGKONG.

The value of the exports from Nagasaki to Hongkong and of the imports from this port to Nagasaki during the first three months of this year was 253,586 yen and 93 yen respectively. Compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year these figures show a decrease of 25,084 yen in exports, and 930,947 yen in imports. The following table shows the comparative values of the principal merchandise exported and imported during the first three months of 1901 and 1902:—

EXPORT.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Cuttlefish	168,785	179,499
Beche-de-mer	—.	1,833
Shark's fin	·17	4,064
Shellfish (*Awabi*)... ...	12,499	16,985
Shrimps	535	740
Mushrooms	3,958	8 662
Vegetable wax	3,514	16,200
Porcelain and earthenware	1,003	200
Saké	—	1,045
Silk handkerchiefs ...	922	—

IMPORTED.

	1902 Yen.	1902 Yen.
Sugar	—	51,588
Refined sugar (A) ...	—	126,950
Do. (B) ...	—	747,013

GERMAN MERCHANTS AND THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS.

As far as we know, the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says, the German Association has as yet not made any formal resolution against Sir James Mackay's proposals, but so much is certain that the German merchants in China would favour an increase of import duties only under the pre-supposition of sure guarantees against the re-establishment of the now existing impropriety. At any rate it seems to be quite prudent that the German merchants do not at this moment take up any decisive position in this question. As Germany has in any circumstances the most favoured rights, she may calmly look at any arrangements which Great Britain makes. Commercially the German and British interests go side by side, and when Great Britain, through the new commercial treaty which is to be concluded with China, makes any improvements regarding the external conditions, they are of interest to Germany also. That the British government should agree to a further increase of import duties of ten per cent. without securing considerable advantages on the other side is out of the question. But, even if the compensation which England demands should be insufficient, and if the guarantee which China gives that the abolishing of *lekin* shall be carried out in the true sense of the treaty should not be sufficient, it can hardly be of any disadvantage to Germany. Whilst on the one hand Germany cannot be compelled to approve of the new Anglo-Chinese commercial treaty, she has on the other hand the possibility, be it alone, or in combination with other powers, of bringing pressure to bear on China and so gain greater guaranties than Great Britain was able to obtain. That, in case Germany later on should be successful in this respect, all advantages gained would be beneficial to all other powers and that even an inadequate treaty which may have been concluded by the British government would be amended, need not be specially mentioned. For that reason it seems to us that the German merchants can calmly look at the further development of affairs. It is, however, quite a different question whether, considering the present state of affairs, a new commercial treaty will be made at all in the near future, be it with Great Britain, Germany, America or any other power. The negotiations are much prolonged and the Chinese are so opposed against everything, that seemingly nothing has been arrived at after nearly three months negotiations.

Japanese military manœuvres will take place in Kyushu next November, when the Emperor will personally review the troops.

WEIHAIWEI: A CURIOUS STORY.

The following is from the *Nagasaki Press*:—

A Peking telegram says that when the Japan-China war was over the Chinese Government ordered the Viceroy of Chihli to bring again into being a powerful fleet in place of that which China lost during the war. The late Viceroy Li Hung-chang took up the matter, but he died before he could do anything definite, and the work is thus left to be carried out by his successor, Viceroy Yuan Shikai. As soon as Yuan was promoted to the Viceroyalty, he drew up a plan for a new fleet, with the idea of disbursing Tls. 1,100,000 a year until a sufficient number of warships should be ready for sea. He now seems to have realised that the greatest difficulty lies in the fact that no port suitable for a base could be procured on the Gulf of Pechili. It is now reported that Admiral Yao, of the Chinese Navy, under instructions from Viceroy Yuan, has lately entered into negotiations with the British commander at Weihaiwei for the use of a portion of that leased port by the Chinese Navy. It is said that the British Commander is inclined to comply with the wishes of the Chinese Navy, on condition that not more than five Chinese warships be allowed to moor there at any one time. The condition will probably be agreed to by the Chinese authorities.

PLAGUE PREVENTION IN KOBE.

Satisfactory activity is being shown at Kobe in measures for the prevention of plague. Three doctors have been engaged both at the Kobe and Aioibashi Police Stations and two in the Hyogo Police Station, and these officers are engaged daily in house-to-house inspection. The number of rats and mice caught has greatly increased owing to the raising of the price paid by the city and the prizes offered by the Kobe branch of the Japan Sanitary Society. At present about 950 rats are being brought to police stations daily. Arsenic-paste has been distributed among the householders in one section of the city by the police for the destruction of rats and mice. This is delivered in the afternoon and the unused part collected on the following morning. Papers containing directions for the treatment of the paste are also given to householders. To prevent poisoning in the case of those who accidentally use the paste, the officials state that medicine can be obtained at any police-box.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Shinano Maru*, which arrived at Kobe on the morning of the 1st inst. from Hongkong, *viâ* Shanghai and Moji, was quarantined for two days at Wada Point, on account of the discovery of a suspected plague-infected passenger. The steamer shipped 141 Chinese steerage passengers, and four European passengers, three gentlemen, and one lady. At Moji on the 30th ult. the passengers and crew were thoroughly examined by the health officials, and the steamer was allowed to proceed. A little later one of the Chinese passengers was found to be suffering from fever, and the symptoms appeared suspicious. On the arrival of the steamer at Wada at 7,30 a.m. on the 1st., the fever of the patient was pronounced, and the vessel was ordered to be detained for two days, pending the result of the examination of the patient. This, however, showed no bacilli to exist in the patient's blood, the case being one of simple fever. The *Shinano Maru* was therefore released from quarantine and arrived in Kobe harbour.

The niece of Yung Lu, who was betrothed, while the Court was still at Paoting in November last, by command of the Empress Dowager to Prince P'u Lun, 4th Order, was married on the 29th ult. Owing to the Prince being nearly connected with the Throne the silk hangings which decorated the residence of Yung Lu on the occasion were of Imperial Yellow colour, intermingled with the festive red. It is stated that Yung Lu's daughter, who was about the same time betrothed at Paoting to Prince Chun, the Emperor's younger brother, by command of the same high authority, will be married some time in June next. Prince P'u Lun, was born in November, 1874, is a nephew of late Emperor Tung Chih and, properly speaking, is the nearest heir of that Emperor.

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 10th inst. were 285 non-Chinese and 103 Chinese to the former, 42 non-Chinese and 1,720 Chinese to the latter institution.

Notice is given that the Venerable William Banister, Archdeacon of Hongkong, intends at an early date to apply to the Legislative Council for a Bill to provide for the incorporation of the Church Body of the Chinese Anglican Church here.

The following return of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 30th April, 1902, are certified by the Managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount. $	Specie in Reserve. $
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,101,293	1,700,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	8,516,000	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	430,312	150,000
Total.....	$12,047,6 5	$6,850,000

On the 10th inst., the police reported on the 12th inst., an accident occurred in Tung Man Lane by which one native woman was killed and another slightly injured. From the statement of the survivor it appears that the women were sitting on the sill of the window, which was open, enjoying the cool breeze, when the one who was killed suddenly lost her balance and toppled over. In falling, she clutched at her companion, and she too was carried over the window, but fell on top of the other and escaped with a severe shaking. Her companion died from the injuries she received.

The heavy rains of the past few days have been attended with many subsidences in streets and roads in the Colony. From all districts of the City, and from Kowloon, Yaumati, and the New Territory, reports of such occurrences are coming in, but in no case, fortunately, have they been accompanied by injury to any one, although some of the subsidences, pincipally in the eastern district in the neighbourhoods of the Market, Cross Street, and Nullah Lane, are described as dangerous. An immense quantity of *débris* from the hillsides has blocked the side channel in the Wanchai Gap Road for a distance of three hundred feet, and a trench thirty yards long and a foot deep has been dug in the Valley Road near Wongneichong village. In addition to these, ten yards of the cemetery wall at Happy Valley collapsed owing to the soaked condition of the material, and at Taipo, in the New Territory, a stone bridge gave way. On the upper levels of the island, Kennedy Road has suffered not a little.

An outbreak of fire occurred on the 12th inst. in a kerosene shop at 271, Queen's Road West, near Centre Street. The Fire Brigade were apprised of the occurrence by a telephone message from the Government Civil Hospital, but by the time they reached the scene four houses were in a blaze. There was the same old difficulty of a non-supply of fresh water to face, and when sufficient had been pumped up from the harbour another house was added to the number, making five, all of which were completely destroyed. A strong wind blew, and carried the flames right across the street, to the great danger of houses on that side. Three large, swinging signboards caught fire, and to eliminate the risk from this source the firemen ascended to the first floors of several of the houses and knocked the signboards into the street. Two firemen, Shepherd and Taylor, were slightly injured by falling masonry. They were standing on a ladder about twelve feet from the ground holding the hose, in order to facilitate the work of their comrades up above, when a cement window-sill, cracked by the great heat and collapsing through contact with the water, fell on top of them, knocking them to the ground. Shepherd sustained a cut forehead and sprained wrist, and Taylor a bruised back and cut nose. Before the outbreak was overcome five houses, as has been said, were gutted and two damaged by fire and water. The damage is about $30,000, and is only partly covered by insurance, which, from the claims so far made known to the police, stands at $33,500. The cause of the outbreak is unknown at present.

Chev. Z. Volpicelli resumed charge of the Italian Consulate in Hongkong on the 8th inst.

Mr. S. B. C. Ross has been appointed additional Registrar of the Land Court in the absence on leave of Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe.

We regret to announce the death, in his 41st year, of Captain Wm. Jackson Davis, of the steamer *Haiching*, at the Peak Hospital, on the 15th inst. Captain Davis will be very much missed in shipping circles, as he has been engaged with the Douglas Steamship Co. since 1883.

A return water-polo match was played on the 15th inst. between the V.R.C. and Torpedo Depôt, the latter winning by three goals to two. In the previous match they were defeated by four goals to two. The sailors exhibited much improvement in form, and should develop into a first-class team.

Police Inspector McNab had an enthusiastic send off on the *Coromandel* on the 10th inst., a party of quite thirty friends assembling to bid him and his wife and two children *bon voyage*. The bagpipes, as usual, were in evidence, and a special feature was a new tune entitled "Three and Fourpence to the Dollar!"

The appointment is notified, in a *Government Gazette Extraordinary*, of the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., to be Colonial Secretary, with effect from the 23rd April. Mr. May arrived by the German mail steamer *Preussen* on Wednesday, and was welcomed back by Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police. He is staying as a guest at the Peak residence of Mr. G. Stewart.

The returns of the number of cases dealt with at the Magistracy during the year 1901 are published in the *Government Gazette*. They show that the total number of cases was 14,531 and of prisoners 17,067. Of these, 14,225 were convicted and 2,276 discharged, whilst 123 were committed for trial at the Supreme Court and 6 committed to prison or detained pending the orders of H.E. the Governor. Two witnesses were punished for preferring false charges or wilfully giving false testimony. The total number of writs issued during the year was 7,863, and the total number of fire enquiries 2.

Among the numerous passengers by the German mail steamer *Prinzess Irene*, which left on Wednesday for Europe, was the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., who goes for a trip for the benefit of his health. Mr. Chater has been suffering a good deal from gout lately, and, under medical advice, will try the baths at Marienbad, in Germany. He hopes to return in six months' time. We wish him a pleasant passage and a speedy return with restored health and energy.

By the Royal Mail steamer *Empress of Japan*, which left on Wednesday, there sailed, besides Sir Thomas Jackson, another well-known citizen who will be much missed. The Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, head of the firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co., member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, departs for England to day for good, after a long career in the Far East. Mr. Bell Irving has been actively associated with so many of our joint-stock undertakings as chairman or director, and as such was so constantly before the public that he has, despite a somewhat retiring disposition, been a conspicuous figure in the Colony, and has made a reputation for shrewdness and business acumen second to none of his predecessors in the "Princely Hong." As a genial host and a thorough sportsman he will be long remembered. The Ewo colours were always to the fore at the Race Meetings, his stable being one of Mr. Bell Irving's greatest hobbies, while as a shot he was unexcelled among local votaries of the gun. With characteristic modesty, Mr. Bell Irving leaves the Colony before a contemplated act of munificence can be made known, but it is perhaps permissible to hint that the community will ere long in this respect also find cause to "remember his name."

H.M. surveying-ship *Waterwitch* arrived on the 10th inst. from Mirs Bay.

H.M. sloop *Vestal* arrived from Swatow on the 15th inst., and the American gunboat *Vicksburg* from Shanghai.

The U.S. monitor *Monadnock* left the harbour on Thursday for a cruise, and returned on Friday. H.M. storeship *Humber* arrived on Friday from Weihaiwei.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A telegram to *L'Echo de Chine* says that "interviewed at Dresden, Marshal Waldersee declared that war between Japan and Russia was inevitable." Count von Waldersee made many indiscret speeches on his return from China, but we cannot credit the above.

At a recent general meeting the Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce decided to memorialise the Ministers of Communication and of Agriculture and Commerce, requesting them to arrange that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European liners should touch at Nagasaki on their outward and inward voyages.

Hitherto the Toyo Kisen Kaisha have employed foreign captains and officers on their ships, the *Nippon Maru*, *America Maru* and *Hongkong Maru*. Recently, says the *Nagasaki Press*, the chief mates on these steamers were replaced by Japanese, and in course of time the chief engineers and pursers are also to be changed.

The *Universal Gazette* states that the Chinese Government offers to buy over the Telephone service established between Peking and Tientsin by the Germans since the capture of the former city by the Allies in 1900, but that as the Chinese consider the price charged by the Germans to be too high, the bargain has not yet become an accomplished fact.

The *Nagasaki Press* of the 6th inst. reports:—The T.K.K. steamer *America Maru* has been ordered to remain in quarantine here for three days. It appears that a Chinese passenger died of cholera outside Shanghai, and the body was landed at that port. All the rest of the passengers and crew are in good health, but the sanitary officials have considered it necessary to take the fullest precautions.

The Russian authorities up north claim that, as smuggling is being carried on to such a great extent along the Russo-Chinese frontier, they are justified in establishing customs offices at Blagovestschensk and at the railway station of Pogranitchnaya, on the frontier, with a view to putting a stop to illicit trade. At Khabarovsk, Russian customs officials will be appointed to look after the trade upon the river Sungari, as the local smugglers have got the bulk of the trade in their own hands, and they are said to be doing a great trade in exporting goods from Harbin to Khabarovsk along the Sungari.

The news from the place of the troubles in South Chihli is rather favourable, it is stated from German sources in Peking. The Chinese soldiers who have been killed, were only recently enlisted recruits. The regular troops have not yet met the rebels. They are moving in a concentric circle towards the place of the rebellion. They have defended themselves successfully against their aggressors. No other missionary has been killed. The centre of the riots is near Kuangtsunghsien. A part of the rebels are reported to be boxers from Shantung. The leader of the movement is a former Chinese officer, Chingtingpin.

We have this week a letter, says the *P. & T. Times* in an editorial note, from an old resident in Peking, a gentleman who is exceedingly well informed, asking us in the general interests of foreigners and Chinese alike to discredit "the absurd alarmist rumours" current in Tientsin about insecurity in Peking. Our correspondent says: "Never in my experience has Peking been so quiet and orderly, and the people better controlled. All the best informed foreigners would bear me out in this, and I can assure you it has the endorsement of the missionary fathers of the Pei Tang, the last people to be deceived."

The following remarkable story is contained in a Peking telegram to the *Asahi*:—A South China Viceroy has telegraphed to the Government a representation for an enquiry as to the cause of the death of Yang Ju, the late Chinese Minister to St. Petersburg, who is rumoured to have been kicked down a stair in the Russian Foreign Department. The Viceroy states in his message that if the report is correct it is a disgrace to China. It is also very strange (the Viceroy says) that a son of the deceased should hang himself without observing mourning and the fact may be taken as confirming the rumour to a certain extent. The Viceroy urged the Government to press forward an enquiry and he advised the Government that no one will consent to succeed the deceased if the whole affair was not promptly investigated.

The United States Secretary for War at Washington has informed the Senate that he approves of General Smith's methods as being both humane and effective. No order such as mentioned at the trial of Major Waller had reached the War Department.

A Tokyo telegram says that as to the proposed introduction of foreign loans for the convenience of various private railways in Japan the question of granting the right of undertaking railway business in the interior to foreigners has become an important subject for discussion in the Japanese Government of late. A certain section in the House of Peers is in opposition to the proposition and some difficulty is expected to be experienced before the matter is finally and fairly settled.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Yokohama	23,908,330	25,284,127
Kobe	—	—
Hiogo	12,532,854	14,095,635
	36,441,184	39,379,762

SILK.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	—	—
Yokohama	41,089	29,608
	41,089	29,608

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	—	—
Yokohama	24,014	25,024
	24,014	25,024

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 16th May.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 16th May.—The prices are declining, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White	$8.25	to	$8.30	pcl.
do. „ 2, White	7.00	to	7.05	„
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	5.95	to	6.00	„
do. „ 2, Brown	5.85	to	5.90	„
Swatow, No. 1, White	8.15	to	8.20	„
Swatow, No. 1, White	6.95	to	7.00	„
do. „ 1, Brown	5.80	to	5.85	„
do. „ 2, Brown	5.70	to	5.75	„
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.05	to	12.10	„
Shekloong „	9.90	to	9.95	„

RICE.

HONGKONG, 16th May.—No demands having come forward, the prices are declining. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	$3.15	to	3.20
„ Round, Good quality	3.95	to	4.00
„ Long	4.10	to	4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.30	to	3.35
„ Garden, „ No. 1	3.70	to	3.75
„ White	4.10	to	4.15
„ Fine Cargo	4.25	to	4.30

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Ceylon* sailed on the 4th April. For London opt. Manchester:—170 bales waste silk. For London:—75 bales waste silk, 40 cases bristles, 10 cases Chinaware, 1 case blackwoodware, 3 cases hair, 2 cases silks and curios, 1 case private effects, 1 case curios and clothing.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 16th May.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 150 bales No. 6 at $84 to $85, 1,300 bales No. 10 at $93 to $97, 1,150 bales No. 12 at $97 to $101, 300 bales No. 16 at $107.50 to $115, 1,400 bales No. 20 at $117 to $130. *White Shirtings*: 50 pieces Red Dragon 48 at $2.85. *Drill*: 150 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock at $4.80.

METALS.—*Quicksilver*: 50 flasks at $188. *Nail Rod Iron*: 6,000 bundles at $4.80 to arrive. *Round Rod Iron*: 2,000 bundles at $5.30 to arrive.

	per bale		
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s	$85.00	to	$130.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24,	114.00	to	120.00
„ 22 to 24,	120.00	to	128.00
„ 28 to 32,	136.00	to	142.00
„ 38 to 42,	155.00	to	170.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS—			
	per piece.		
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10	to	2.20
7 lbs.	2.25	to	2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.00	to	3.60
9 to 10 lbs.	3.75	to	4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.45	to	2.75
58 to 60 „	3.20	to	4.20
64 to 66 „	4.30	to	5.10
Fine	5.30	to	7.50
Book-folds	4.35	to	6.75
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.75	to	1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y	1.75	to	2.00
7lbs. (32 „), „	2.05	to	2.35
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.	2.10	to	2.20
7lbs. (32 „), „	2.85	to	3.40
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.10	to	3.60
Drills, English—40 yds., 13⅓ to 14 lbs.	4.10	to	6.85
FANCY COTTONS—			
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs	1.60	to	5.00
Brocades—Dyed	—	to	—
DAMASKS—	per yard		
Chintzes—Assorted	0.18	to	0.20
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.24	to	0.30
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22	to	0.30
	per dozen		
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.30	to	3.00
WOOLLENS—	per yard		
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.65	to	2.00
German	1.25	to	3.00
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25	to	3.00
	per piece		
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.50	to	8.50
Assorted	6.60	to	8.65
Camlets—Assorted	12.00	to	32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches Assorted	12.00	to	16.00
Orleans—Plain	8.00	to	9.50
	per pair		
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00	to	9.00
METALS—	per picul		
Iron—Nail Rod	4.70	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.75	to	—
Swedish Bar	4.80	to	—
Small Round Rod	5.20	to	—
Hoop ⅜ to 11/2 in.,	6.40	to	—
Wire, 16/25,	9.00	to	—
Old Wire Rope	2.60	to	—
Pig Non	35.50	to	36.50
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.50	to	—
Australian	8.50	to	—
METALS—	per picul		
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	41.00	to	—
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	41.00	to	—
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	41.00	to	—
Composition Nails	61.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00	to	—
Tin	75.00	to	—
	per box.		
Tin-Plates	8.50	to	—
	per cwt. case		
Steel ¼ to ⅜	5.90	to	—
SUNDRIES—	per picul		
Quicksilver	174.50	to	—
	per box.		
Window Glass	6.00	to	—
	per 10-gal. case		
Kerosene Oil	2.10	to	—

SHANGHAI, 9th May.—Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co. say in their report.—In Metals several transactions have been closed, as noted below, at prices fairly satisfactory to importers, though assuring greater laid down cost than the prices ruling for spot cargo. However, stocks are being rapidly exhausted and new rates must shortly prevail. The following is reported:—100 tons Belgian Horse-shoes, 98s. c.i.f.; 100 tons. Steel Plate Cuttings, 98s. c.i.f.; 50 tons Railway Spikes, 95s., c.i.f.; 50 tons Cart Tyres, 99s.; 20 tons Black Sheet Iron, £11.; 100 tons Galvanised Wire (rejected), Tls. 2.50 picul, spot. Auction—35 tons Fire Bars, Tls. 1.35 picul; 20 tons Old Iron Plates, Tls. 2.30 picul; 20 tons Old Telegraph Wire, Tls. 2.25 picul; 15 tons Cart Tyres, Tls. 2.60 picul; In Sundries nothing has been reported during the interval, stocks sufficing for present needs, and not being short enough to induce business at present quotations and exchange.

MANILA, 5th May (from Messrs. W. A. Fitton & Co.'s Monthly Report).—Since issue of our circular No. 29, there is little change to report in our Share Market; money continues tight. Transactions.—Are extremely limited, and we have none of importance to advise. Demand.—Maritimas, Oriente Hotels, and American Bank shares are enquired for, but only in small lots. Meetings.—Tramway Co. meeting held 7th ulto. confirmed sale as reported in our last circular; price, however, was $500,000 Gold, not $500,000 Mexicans as then mentioned. This gives an excellent return to shareholders in the old company. Germinal Cigar Co. held their annual meeting yesterday; nett profits were $28,429.84; $28,000 was taken to Reserve Fund (making this $40,000.00), and $429.84 carried forward. New Companies.—The Filipinos are moving with the times, and during the month under review have fathered the Manila Building & Loan Association with a capital of $250,000 Gold, and increased the capital of the Popular Co-operative Co., Limited, from $15,000 Mexicans to $200,000; subscriptions for increase in capital of latter company are now being invited. Directorate of both concerns is satisfactory; the previous effects of Filipinos in running joint stock companies redound to their credit, and we anticipate a successful career for above concerns. The Philippine Lumber and Development Co., purely an American concern, but with local captalists interested, are inviting subscriptions for a further $150,000, which will make total capital $750,000 Mexicans. Subscribers are guaranteed 10 per cent. per annum on the new stock. This company was started two years ago, and has done a steady and constantly increasing business. The North American and Philippine Loan and Trust Co., formation of which we reported in our last circular, is doing a banking business also, and we learn has met with considerable success. The want of such institutions has been greatly felt, and the founders of above concern should meet with the success their enterprise merits. General.—Meetings of the Manila Investment Co. and Philippine Tobacco Trust Co. should be held during the current month, as also of the Varadero (Canacao slip). The leasing of the Oriente Hotel, reported in our last circular, is now an accomplished fact; shares are well worth holding, and we can recommend them to the investing public; at present figure they are cheap. The slump in this stock has been stopped; steady dividends can now be counted on.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 16th May.—Very little business has been transacted in our market during the last week, and with the exception of the decline in Hongkong Lands there is nothing of special interest for report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have been booked at $590 and further small lots are enquired for. The London quotation remains unaltered at £63.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in request at $390. China Traders have been sold at $57, at which more shares are obtainable. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 181, and Yangtszes at $123.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have been sold at $80. Hongkongs can be placed at $330.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have found buyers at $38½ and continue steady. Indo-Chinas under orders from the North have improved to $133 buyers. China and Manilas have sold at $35, and are on further offer at $37½. Douglases are quiet at $43½. Star Ferries have declined to $22 (old) and $11½ (new) with sellers. Shell Transports after sales at the reduced rate of £1.10.0 are enquired for at £1.12.6.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue neglected at $118 with sellers, and Luzons at $25.

MINING.—Punjoms have sold at $5¼ and can still be placed at the rate. Raubs are in some request at $9.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been placed at $240, at which there are further sellers. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are somewhat easier with sellers at $89. New Amoy Docks continue in request at $35.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have suffered a decline to $175 with sales and some further small buyers. Kowloon Lands continue on offer at $30, and West Points at $55 Hongkong Hotels are steady at $139. Oriente Hotels can be obtained at $50. Humphreys Estates are offering at $12 after sales at the rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined to Tls. 45 with sellers, and Laou Kung Mows to Tls. 45 sellers. Hongkong Cottons can be placed at $16¼.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at $21¾ and are obtainable at $22. Watsons after sales at $14¾ to $15 are in further request. Fenwicks are wanted at $45½, and China Light and Powers at $15. In other stocks there are no changes to report.

MEMOS.—Star Ferry Co., Ld., ordinary yearly meeting on the 21st instant. China Light and Power Co., Ld., ordinary yearly meeting on the 28th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	$125	$590, buyers / L'don, £63.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£1	$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	$10	$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ld.	$15	$25, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ld.	$20	$15, buyers
China Prov. L. & M....	$10	$9.75, sales
China Sugar	$100	$118, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	$500	$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ld.	$50	$50, sellers
Cotton Mills—		[sellers
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 45, sales &
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, sellers.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	$100	$16¼, buyers
Dairy Farm	$6	$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	$25	$45½, buyers
Green Island Cement...	$10	$22.
H. & C. Bakery	$50	$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	$10	$14, sellers
	$5	$7, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	$100	$330, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ld.	$5	$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	$50	$139.
Hongkong Ice	$25	$240, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	$50	$89, sellers
Hongkong Rope	$50	$140, sellers
H. & W. Dock	$50	$240.
Insurance—		
Canton	$50	$170.
China Fire	$20	$80, sales
China Traders'	$25	$57, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	$50	$330, buyers
North China	£25	Tls. 181, buyers
Straits	$20	nominal.
Union	$50	$390, buyers
Yangtsze	$60	$123, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	$100	$175.
Humphreys Estate...	$10	$12, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	$30	$30, sellers
West Point Building	$50	$55, sellers
Luzon Sugar	$100	$25, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ld.	$50	$35, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	$550.
Jelebu	$5	$3, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ld....	25c.	nominal.
Olivers Mines, A....	$5	nominal.
Do. B....	$4½	nominal.
Punjom	$10	$5¼, sales & buys.
Do. Perference...	$1	$1¼, sellers
Raubs	18	$9, buyers
New Amoy Dock	$6¾	$35, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	$50	$50, sellers
Powell, Ld.	$10	$9.
Robinson Piano Co., Ld.	$50	$55.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	$50	$37½, sellers
	$5	nominal
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10. 10s., buyers
Do. Ordinary	£7.10	£7. 10., sellers
Do. Bonus	£5	£5, sellers
Douglas Steamship	$50	$43½.
H., Canton and M...	$15	$38½, sales& sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	$133, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1.12s.6d., buyers
Star Ferry	$10	$22, sellers
	$5	$11½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	$5	$1.
United Abestos	$4	$9, buyers
Do.	$10	$250, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ld.	$5	$20, buyers
Watkins Ld.	$10	$6½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S....	$10	$15, buyers

VERNON SMYTH, & Brokers.

Shanghai, 14th May (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). Business has been restricted by the Race holidays. MARINE INSURANCE.—No local business. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Shares changed hands at Tls. 98½ cash, 99½ for May; 99½/100 for June, 101 July, 102½ for September and 103½/102½ for October. China Mutual Steam Navigation Co. An offer of £529,991 has been made for all the issued shares of the Company, the purchaser to acquire control of the business without taking over the Company's premises, staff, employees and agents. This offer is at the rate of £12.6.0 for Preference shares, £5 for Ordinary shares and £7 for Ordinary B. shares, with payment on 1st July. The Directors are understood to recommend acceptance of the offer. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares were placed at Tls. 9.15 cash for shares on the London register, and 9.35 for scrip payable to bearer, at Tls. 8.80 for May, 8.85 for June and 9.30 for September. Cash sales are reported today at Tls. 9 and 8.80. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Shares in S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. were sold at Tls. 257½/256 cash, 256 for May, 265 for July, and 270 for October. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were sold at Tls. 270 cash and 280 for December. LANDS.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 110. INDUSTRIAL.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 120. Major Brothers shares are wanted. In Mill shares business was done—Ewos at Tls. 47½, Laou-kung-mows at Tls. 47½, and China Flours at Tls. 44. Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares were sold at Tls. 112½ and are wanted. Shanghai Ice shares changed hands at Tls. 26 and shares in S. Moutrie & Co. at $59. TUGS & CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were placed at Tls. 132½. MISCELLANEOUS. — Shanghai - Langkat Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 258 cash and 282½ for May, cum div., and at 280 cash and for May at 280 and for September at 300, ex div. Hall and Holtz shares were sold at $40, and Weeks and Co. shares at $25. LOANS.—Shanghai Land Investment Company's 6 per cent. debentures were placed at Tls. 103. Six per cent. Debentures are wanted. The Shanghai Municipal Council advertise the issue of a new 6 per cent. Loan for Tls. 150,000, and tenders will be received to the 25th June.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 17th May.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8 5/16
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8¼
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8 5/16
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1 8⅜
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/8¾
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/8¾
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.12½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.16½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.72¾
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	41⅛
Credits, 60 days' sight	41⅞
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	126½
Bank, on demand	126¾
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	126½
Bank, on demand	126¾
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74
Private, 30 days' sight	74⅜
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	20⅜ p.c.pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand.	1 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE—	
Ondemand	½ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	1 2⅜
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 p.c pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	⅛ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60¾
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	11.72
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	61.40
BAR SILVER per oz.	23¾

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Inaba Maru* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.).

FOR LONDON.—*Ballaarat* (str.), *Glaucus* (str.), *Ben Lomond* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.), *Stentor* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.), *Kaisow* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Inaba Maru* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL. — *Achilles* (str.), *Deucalion* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Tonkin* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Inaba Maru* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Prinz R. Luitpold* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Saxonia* (str.), *Sambia* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Strassburg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—*Austria* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Victoria* (str.), *Kaga Maru* (str.), *Riojun Maru* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.), *Athenian* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Spithead* (str.), *Queensland* (str.), *Mogul* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indrapura* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS. — *Tsinan* (str.), *Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Guthrie* (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Miike Maru* (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Laisang* (str.).

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

May—
10, Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
10, Kaga Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
10, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
10, Santa, French str., from Foochow.
10, Thales, British str., from Swattow.
11, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
11, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
11, Hyson, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
11, M. Rickmers, German str., from Saigon.
11, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
11, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Canton.
11, Waterwitch, British s.-s., from Mirs Bay.
12, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
12, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
12, Babelsberg, German str., from Moji.
12, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
12, Indrapura, British str., from Portland.
12, Machaon, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Prinzess Irene, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
12, Salamanca, British str., from Chefoo.
12, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
13, Amara, British str , from Samarang.
13, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., from Saigon.
13, Eros, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
13, Hikosan Maru, Jap. st., from K'notzu.
13, Hopsang, British str., from Moji.
13, Japan, British str., from Yokohama.
13, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
13, Ness, British str., from Moji.
13, Paoting, British str., from Saigon.
13, Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
13, Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
13, Independent, German str., from Canton.
13, Shansi, British str., from Saigon.
14, Australia, British ship, from New York.
14, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Amoy.
14, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Diamante, British str., from Singapore.
14, Gisela, Austrian str., from Trieste.
14, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
14, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
14, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Preussen, German str., from Bremen.
14, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
15, Benlawers, British str., from London.
15, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
15, Dagmar, German str , from Swatow.
15, Else, German str., from Saigon.
15, Formosa, British str., from London.
15, Foochow, British str., from Moji.
15, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
15, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
15, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
15, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
15, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
15, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
15, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
15, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
15, Vestal, British sloop, from Swatow.
15, Vicksburg, Amr. gunboat, from Shanghai.
16, Amoy, German str., from Newchwang.
16, Clive, British str., from Bombay.
16, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
16, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
16, Humber, British storeship, from W'haiwei.
16, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
16, Kwangse, British str., from Chefoo.
16, Mara Kolb, German str., from Moji.
16, Monadnock, Amr. monitor, from a cruise.
16, Thea, German str., from Newchwang.
16, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
16, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Iloilo.
17, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
17, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
17, Hailoong, British str., from Manila
17, Hongbee, British str., from Straits.
17, Kalgan, British str., from Moji.
17, P. C. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
17, Pitsanulok, German str , from Bangkok.
17, Robt. Dickinson, British str., from S'pore.
17, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.
17, Tonkin, French str., from Shanghai.
18, Canton, British str., from Hongay.
18, Chelydra, British str., from Saigon.
18, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
18, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
18, Tingsang, British str., from Taku.

DEPARTURES.

May—
10, Adria, German str., for Singapore.
10, Chunsang, British str., for Canton.
10, Coromandel British str , for Europe.
10, Duke of Fife, British str., for Tacoma.
10, Fausang, British str., for Swatow.
10, Perla, British str., for Manila.
10, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
10, Sandakan, German str., for Sandakan.
10, Suevia, German str., for Shanghai
10, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
10, Woosung, British str , for Canton.
11, Arnold Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
11, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
11, Elg, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
11, Emma Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
11, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
11, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
11, Independent, German str., for Canton.
11, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
11, Lucia, Austrian str., for Singapore.
11, Phra Chom Klao, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
12, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
12, Glenlogan, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
12, Hyson, British str., for Saigon.
12, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
12, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Thyra, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
12, Terrible, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
12, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
13, Argo, Norwegian str., for Quinhon.
13, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
13, Kong Beng, German str., for Bangkok.
13, Lindula, British str., for Amoy.
13, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan
13, Merionethshire, Brit. str., for Shanghai
13, Pakhoi, British str., for Iloilo.
15, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
15, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for V'couver.
14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
14, Machaon, British str., for London.
14, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
14, Nanshan, British str., for Swatow.
14, Prinzess Irene, German str., for Europe.
14, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
14, Saga, Norwegian str , for Bangkok.
14, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
15, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
15, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
15, Benlarig, British str., for Hongay.
15, China, German str., for Singapore.
15, Elsa, German str., for Hongay.
15, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
15, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
15, Hue, French str., for Kwongchauwan.
15, Independent, German str., for Saigon.
15, Melbourne, British str., for Manila.
15, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.
15, Pronto, German str., for Haiphong.
15, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
15, Monadnock, Amr. monitor, for a cruise.
16, Chunsang, British str., for Swatow.
16, Formosa, British str., for Shanghai.
16, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
16, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotsu.
16, Japan, British str., for London.

16, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
16, Kweiyang, British str., for Weihaiwei.
16, Laisang, British str., for Calcutta.
16, Ness, British str., for Moji.
16, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
17, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
17, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
17, Dagmar, German str., for Hankow.
17, Eros, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
17, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
17, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., for London.
17, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
17, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok,
17, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
17, Tiger, German gunboat, for Canton.
17, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
17, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
18, Babelsberg, German str., for Moji.
18, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.
18, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
18, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
18, Gisela, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
18, Hopsang, British str., for Moji.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haichin g*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Cass and Mr. Horsey.

Per *Glenlogan*, from London, &c., for Shanghai, Miss Shipard.

Per *Laisang*, from Calcutta, &c., Major Cooper, Messrs. A. and E. Raymond.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Washington, Messrs. Hay, Jof and Roudon.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. Coates and children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lim, Mrs. J. W. Dougherty, Mrs. H. H. Shelton, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. S. Thomas, Miss E. B. Caldwell, Dr. W. F. Arnold, Messrs. M. Elias, A. J. Mora, J. E. Price, J. Herman, H. Broussian and G. Dumont.

Per *Coromandel*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Miss Elwin, Messrs. J. W. Richardson and Bastien; from Kobe, Miss Murray: for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mr. T. Weigall: for London, from Shanghai, Mrs. Ash, Capt. A. Kundsen, Messrs. J. P. Morley, D. M. Hay and P. T. Gold; from Yokohama, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Cottell, Misses Cottell (2) Mrs. Wheeler and Mr. Lemarchand.

Per *Phranang*, from Bangkok, Mr. M. B. Cohen.

Per *Kaga Maru*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Hoops, Miss M. Veach, Miss S. Abhayananda, and Rev. W. M. and Mrs. Franklin.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. Farmer and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and child and Mr. Alt.

Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Petersen and Landfort.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Genato and son, Mrs., Miss and Master Lacalle, Mrs. Loeni, Major Paddock, Misses Hart, Goode and Leiplan, Messrs. Walker, Easthazon, Stack, Jennings, Summers, Silva, Kendal, Robertson, Emerson, de Silva and Grant Smith.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. M. J. Patell; from Kobe, Messrs. W. A. Buck and J. Trouller; from Shanghai, Mrs. A. Fullerton, Misses Sachs and Martkoi, Master Vernon Quelch, Capt. Schrader, Messrs. R. Shewan, Sam Houston, G. L. Thomson, J. Lewis, Wm. Allanson, A. Korff, G. McBain, Fumazalli Camillo and Alex. Stewart. In transit, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Kinch; for Penang, Mrs. and Miss Findlay; for Colombo, Yore Berachtari; for Aden, Mr. K. Izzvella; for Genoa, Mrs. Fregatlen, Mr. and Mrs. Sauers, Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen and child, Mrs. D. Siffert and child, Misses A. Wismer and K. Pond, Capts. Guehler and Tapken, Messrs. S. Uyemura, E. Wismer, D. E. Stone, G. Garavaglia, Mauver, Grumbkon, K. Miyairi, Y. Hatono, A. L. Jordan, C. F. Smith, Hebold and F. Krüger; for London, Mrs. Geo. Lyme Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Southerland and child, Mr. and Mrs. Bates and children, Mrs. and Miss W. A. Catella and child, Dr. W. Pratt, Messrs. A. H. Marshall, A. H. Jamieson and J. Hartley; for Bremen, Miss Louise Korff, Master Adalbert Korff, Miss Maria Knaus, Dr. and Mrs. Kitao, Messrs. E. Wemper, G. G. Thorgenson, A, Lukinsky, S. Labos, A. Köster, E. Hauswald, Y. Roback, P. Bornemann, F. Wegener, A. Stark, B. Mathieson and C. Meier.

Per *Japan*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Baroth, Mrs. Whitfield, Miss McGowan and Mr. Thompson.

From San Francisco, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Donahue, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Dominguez, Miss Helen Dominguez, Mrs. W. Burdette, Misses A. V. Palmer and Lillie Harris, Messrs. Clarence Cary, T. I. Carbery, A. H. Stewart, D. R. Poobaji, M. F. Lowenstein, F. W. Hash and Capt. W. W. Plum.

Per *Diamante*, from Singapore, &c., Mr. Ellis.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Roach and three children, Dr. and Mrs. Ashmore, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews and two children, Mrs. McCrae, Rev. Gauthier and Mr. Bearer.

Per *Formosa*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Allnutt and infant, Lieuts. A. J. Sutor and W. Townley; from Singapore, Mr. W. G. Robinson.

Per *Preussen*, from Hamburg, Mrs. McClane, Mrs. B. de Kuhe and child, Mrs. Rosa Albin, Miss M. Rose, Messrs. Spencer-Shelley, H. F. Chard, W. C. Vickers, S. Whitnall, Kellermann, C. A. Graves, H. Nagott, R. Feldtmann, F. Weiss, A. Tölke, H. F. Richards, E. Stevenson, G. Patterson, E. F. Bonk, H. Sauter, A. Steingrabber, Nicolai Petersen and A. Thomsen.

For Hongkong, from San Francisco, &c., Capt. and Mrs. De Vasconcellas, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Goodrich, Mrs Ransome, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Domerque, Rev. J. B. Rogers, Messrs. Arthur Lewis, J. S. Mallory, J. W. Brown, F. Chiba, N. P. Sorensen, P. Thompson, O. E Weller, R. H. Newborn, H. G. Dowler, J. A. Jupp, R. Hutton Potts, G. Ishü and K. Orihashi.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. F. Bell, Capt. A. D. S. Powell and Mr. S. Ito; for Singapore, Mr. K. Katsube; for Marseilles, Messrs. T. Kato, K. Nio, T. Mazume, K. Fujita and Dr. M. Okuda; for London, Mrs. John Mossop, Mrs. W. H. Jackson and infant, and Mr. W. Goodfellow.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Masters Taylor (2), Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Chintinlay, Mrs. Conzales, Mr. and Mrs. McMullen, Mrs. Matia, Mrs. Pereira and four children, Misses Olga Goldsmith and Ohua, Col. Bowie, Major Newberry, Messrs. C. H. Fullaway, Foss, G. Read and Duffell.

Per *Amoy*, from Newchwang, Mrs. Lorensen.

DEPARTED.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Gumpert, Mr. and Mrs. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. Ford, Lieut.-Col. Rundall, Major Cooper, Messrs. Watchorn, G. D. Taylor, P. Lippens, Rhoden, C. de C. Kerckove, Alliston, East and Patrick.

Per *Australian*, for Australia, Lieut. and Mrs. Silva and child, Miss Silva, Mr. and Mrs. Gurry, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Rolfe and two children, Miss Underwood, Messrs. Jose Mousinho, A. B. Heiter, Reid, Henderson, Gordon, Robertson, F. C. Donnison, F. Drion, Simpson and two Masters Fearon.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mrs. A. C. Markley, Mrs. Margaret Sarah Rose, Mrs. Sebree, Mrs. Barr Hamilton, Miss E. Parker, Messrs. S. Fortin and Thomas Smith.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong, for Bombay, Mr. A. T. A. Mahomed; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Walpole, Mr. and Mrs. McNab and two children, Messrs. E. Duffett, H. E. F. Hurst, W. J. E. Nightingale and Maller.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mrs. R. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Holmer, Misses F. Moutkon and R. Riznik, Rev. E. Garcia, Messrs. Benezra, H. Fengya, K. Nome, S. H. Luck, H. G. Moore, W. O. Wood, W. F. McLaughlin, B. Cameron, A. Noma, K. Turuhashi and Wm. E. Twight.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Sherbrooke, Monsr. G. Laurent Cocheld, Messrs. J. W. Richardson, Geo. Hayworth, Ernest Haples, F. W. Nash, H. R. Taylor, Clarence Carey and W. Nagle; for Nagasaki, Mr. Hirose; for Kobe, Mrs. Watrons, Miss Ridpath, Messrs. M. B. Cohen and H. M Ellis; for Yokohama, Major and Mrs Beresford-Ash, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. S. Thomas, Mrs. J. W. Dougherty, Mrs. C. Genato and child, Mrs. and Miss Lacalle and child, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ashmore, Misses E. B. Caldwell, Stallard, Rosamond Hart and E. R. Goode, Dr. W. T. Arnold, Capt. A. L. Miller, Major G. H. Paddock, Prof. E. H. Sharp, Messrs. W. Kendall, W. B. King, J. F. Jennings, H. H. Shelton, J. Groves, A. A. Silver, jr., R. Genato, W. R. Groves, A. M. Easthagen and T. J. Stack; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Domingus and child, Messrs. Dennis, E. Travers, Wm. H. Dennis and Jas. E. Price; for Kingston, Mr. B. T. Horsey; for Pittsburg, Mr. Porter Summers; for London, Sir Thomas Jackson and Miss Jackson, Hon. and Mrs. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mrs. and Miss Mather, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Foy and child, Capt. H. W. Richards, Lieut. C. S Owen, Major H. F. Wadron, Capt. H. W. F. Cooke, Miss Bernard, Messrs. F. G. M. Wetherell, T. Elmore, O. Chadwick, H. El Arculli and J. Rumjahn, Coronation Contingent including, Major Chapman, Lieut. W. Armstrong, Capt. James, Senior Q.-M. Sergt. Ward and Col.-Sergt. Purdon: from Shanghai, for London, Mr John Barclay: from Yokohama, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Trollip, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Davies, Mr. and Miss Kirkes Myers, Messrs. A. Bainbridge, H. S. Bainbridge and W. H. Jones; for Liverpool, Messrs. Alexander Eccles and Alex. Percy Eccles; for New York, Mr. and Mrs. David Edward, Miss Evelyn and Mr. George Edward; for Montreal, Mr. H. H. Horsey.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, from Hongkong, for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. F. Höhnke, Messrs. Rolf and Paul Höhnke, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. T. Davis and son, Mr. and Mrs. C. Steermann, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Fuchs and child, Messrs. Erica and Arnold Fuchs, Hon. C. P. Chater, Capts. v. Mittelstedt and J. Calender, Misses Clara and Olga Steermann, Messrs. A. G. Morris, R. A. Gubbay, A. Babington, H. Arlt, James W. Graham and Kruse: from Japan, for Genoa, Mrs. Guehler, Mr. and Mrs. Sauers, Miss A. Wismer, Messrs. S. Uyemura, E. Wismer, D. E. Stone, K. Miyairi, Y. Hatano and A. L. Jordan; for London, Mrs. G. L. Thomson and Mr. A. H. Marshall; for Bremen, Dr. and Mrs. Kitao, Messrs. E. Wemper, G. G. Thorgersen and A. Lukursky: from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Kinch; for Penang, Mr. and Mrs. Findlay and Mr. Maurer; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen, Mrs. D. Siffert and child, Capt. Tapken, Lieut. v. Grumbkow, Insp. Fr, Krüger, Messrs. G. Garavagha, C. F. Smith, Hebold, K. Reinold and A. Trimnell and Miss K. Pond; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Southerland, Mr. and Mrs. Bates and child, Mrs. and Miss A. Cattelle, Dr. W. Pratt and Mr. A. H. Jamieson; for Bremen, Misses L. Korff, Adalbert Korff and M. Knaus, Messrs. A. Korff, Labos and Köster.

Per *Japan*, for London, from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, Miss Little, Lieut. Stevens, Messrs. Lake and Richmond; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Baroth and infant, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Whitfield.

Per *Preussen*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Hastings, Mrs. A. Remedios, Misses Hardoon, G. Kamerling and E. de Wells, Messrs. Hans Roosen, E. A. Hardoon, W. S. Burrows, W. Böker, Nicolafitsch, A. G. Remedios, G Andrejeno, Koppen, A. Stoph, Roland Behn, Geo. M. Bain and W. Simpson; for Nagasaki, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. N. Krell, Mrs. C. Krell and two children and Mr. J. H. Oxberry; for Kobe, Messrs. J. H. Robins and C. H. Walbourn and Mr. K. Ohkaura; for Yokohama, Messrs. Geo. Thomson and G. F. S. Castello.

For Shanghai, Mrs. Burdette, Major Newberry, Messrs. W. H. Weber, A. H. Stewart and W. H. Bramwell; for Kobe, Messrs. T. J. Carberry and W. W. Plum; for Yokohama, Mrs. M. McClane; for San Francisco, &c., Mrs. E. T. Hoopes, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. T. Laung, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Donohue, Hon. A. W. Brewin, Misses L. Harris and M. Aquinto, Messrs. J. J. Dunne, F. C. Reeve, jr., G. E. Read, C. Stonor, A. Stephenson, H. Jarre and J. Soss.

Per *Inaba Maru*, for London, &c, Mrs. J. Mossop, Mrs. Wright and child, Mrs. Cousins, Mrs. Strom and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. Norton Andrew and two children, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Wild, Mrs. W. H. Jackson and infant, Mrs. Clieve, Misses C., F., E. I., D. and V. Clieve, Mr. F. C. Taylor and three children, Messrs. Ed. A. Pugh, R Adam, C. Robertshaw, P. Kemp, G. J. W. King, W. Goodfellow, Wm. Craig, Wm. Fabian, N. Woelff, Minister Ikato, Dr. M. Okuda, Messrs. K. Katsube, K. Nio, T. Madzumi, K. Fujita and Kumi.

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